

# The Country Gentleman.

A Journal for the Farm, the Garden, and the Fireside.

VOL. I.

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No. I.

## Our Title and Purpose.



THE term GENTLEMAN, like most expressive ones, has been from time immemorial subject to animadversion and misconstruction. It has been made to apply to persons of widely different conditions of life, of radically opposite characters, and diverse pursuits. In its best and proper signification, the word is defined to mean a man of cultivated mind, of refined manners, of genuine kindness of heart, and consequent purity of life. The fashionable acceptation of the term, that obtains in cities and watering places, and its meaning as applied to residents in the country, are essentially different. In the first case, it stands for men of means and leisure, in distinction from those of business; in the latter, it properly embraces all those whose characters recommend them to the respect and confidence of their fellows. In cities it stands more for outward show; in the country, for the possession of sterling virtues. Still the true gentleman is the same in essence, in all situations, in all circumstances, and to all men. The coxcomb and dandy are beings of another order, while the real gentleman is, in all ages, the type of genuine humanity. Politeness, which is considered the evidence of gentlemanliness, though often judged of by formal rules of etiquette, exists in opposition to them, and even in spite of them. Wherever the honest, earnest feeling of the heart finds utterance—wherever the deed of generous sympathy is performed—wherever the life is ruled by the principles of honor and religion, do we find the gentleman. His acts are unconsciously polite, his bearing has on it the stamp of nature's nobility, and his whole character is imbued with those qualities of mind and heart, which endear and dignify man.

Country life is peculiarly adapted to inspire character of this sort, and the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN is therefore the truest exponent of those characteristics which should predominate in the American. There is, then, a propriety in styling a paper for country circulation, and devoted to the interests and pursuits of farmers, THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

In answer to a very natural inquiry, as to some one individual to whom the term, as we use it, would properly apply, we have placed a portrait of WASHINGTON in our vignette. The independence and magnanimity of his character, the energy and decision of his actions, the excellence and simplicity of his whole life; his love of rural pursuits, and his devotion to his country, make him a fit type of the American country gentleman. In his public career, in his social relations, in his efforts for the highest individual and common good, he stands as a model for all time. Placed by

Providence and his own superior wisdom, at the head of our nation, before it was rent by political faction and private interest, there has never been a time when the entire population of the United States have not been ready to rally with his name for a watch-word. We place his likeness, then, with confidence at the head of our sheet, and write his name as Father of his Country, and the true representative of a gentleman, without fear of contradiction. Let no one object to our title, who is not prepared to falsify the claim of WASHINGTON to the name of Country Gentleman, or willing to allow that he is not emulous of a similar character, and does not respect his virtues.

It is a fixed fact, that the progress of our rural population demands a journal, independent in its character, and safe and reliable in its teachings, as an advocate and representative of the great agricultural interests of the country. Improvement begets a desire for farther advancement, and so fast as *high* culture takes the place of *low* culture on our farms, so rapidly will a taste for literature, for home embellishment, and true refinement, succeed to the surprising apathy on these subjects which has so long prevailed. It is a truth worthy of remark, that the highest forms of eloquence, the purest diction, the most beautiful works of art, the sweetest music, have always been appreciated by the masses of the people. We hold it an axiom, that the love of the really beautiful, admiration of noble and manly qualities, and respect for genuine virtue and excellence, are instinctive in the heart. The sickly taste for light and vapid reading, is not natural. It has been formed as the taste for sweetmeats is in children,—by feeding sugar plums when they cried for food. But allowing that there are a large class of readers, whose vitiated appetite must be pandered to by a literature as degraded, we deny that our farmers or their families form, to any considerable extent, this class.

We propose, then to make THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN the repository of such Agricultural and Horticultural matter, such thoughts and principles, such information and current news, as in our judgment will most safely and surely promote the best interests of all country residents. Our readers must bear in mind, that our subscribers are scattered over a great part of the Union, and that what may seem of little moment to one, may be of the most vital importance to another. We have so arranged the matter under topics, that one can turn, without inconvenience, to the several departments, and this system will be carefully pursued.

The general arrangement and typographical execution of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, have been studied with a view to combine uniformity and good taste; and it is our intention to make its external appearance a true index to its contents.

With this exposition of our purpose, we invite the attention of every one into whose hands this sheet may fall, to a careful perusal of its entire contents, with the request that if they find it adapted to their wants, they will become permanent subscribers, and use their influence and exertions in its behalf.

## Farm Economy.

"I am not *rich enough* to be economical," said a young friend of ours, when we strongly recommended to him the profits of a certain improvement. "The want of means compels me to work constantly to a disadvantage, and I cannot enjoy the privileges and profits of my richer neighbors." This is a difficulty in which many intelligent farmers have found themselves placed, and from which they would most gladly be extricated. Innumerable instances are occurring in their daily practice, where they could secure golden results, had they only the lever of capital placed in their hands; but as they are now situated, they seem to themselves like the man who is digging the earth with his unassisted hands, or the one who is compelled to carry water in an egg-shell, while their more fortunate neighbors are turning up the deep soil with the most perfect instruments, or sending streams of refreshment and fertility through easy channels over their entire farms. Now, we are not about to plan a "royal road" of escape from this difficulty; it must be met and conquered. If the attack is rightly made, the conquest will be comparatively easy; if wrongly, it will be the discouraging and formidable task of a life time.

The eager inquiry is now made, What is the easiest mode of conquest? We answer, the first and great leading means, is a large fund of thorough and practical *knowledge*. The man who, by a close observation of results in his own practice and in the experience of others, in connection with the immense amount of useful *suggestions*, (to say nothing of distinct practical directions) contained in the best publications of the day, possesses, even with a very short purse, a vast advantage over the short-sighted, ignorant, and unobservant capitalist. He will turn to advantage, even with his very limited means, a thousand resources which others would allow to sleep unemployed forever.

We once had occasion to observe the contrast in the condition of two young farmers, one of whom had a four-hundred acre farm "left" to him; the other had but fifty acres, which he had paid for in part, by previously laboring on a farm for some years by the month in summer, and teaching a district school in winter. The one had the capital of money which his own hands had never earned; the other possessed the more valuable capital of knowledge and indomitable perseverance. The young heir was more interested in

riding about, in parties, balls, and in jaunts to the city, than in the details of farming, and knew the contents of the tri-weekly political newspaper, and of a certain frivolous magazine, much better than of any agricultural journal, or of Norton's Elements. His farm became an exact reflection of its owner's character. Fences were soon obscured by belts of alders, blackberries, and burdocks; and buildings showed marks of premature age, and became dilapidated. There was a thirty-acre marsh, which might have been drained, but it never was. And there was a patch of Canada thistles which filled one twelve-acre field, and part of another, which he could have destroyed in one season, had he known how others had done. One hundred and eighty loads of manure, as estimated at one time by a neighbor, were allowed to lie a whole year about his barn, without application. His cattle were of the long-horned, big-headed, sharp-backed breed. His swine were the Long-bristled Racers. His profits in farming may be easily guessed. There was a general complaint among his neighbors, that his debts were never met within six months after the appointed payday, and that he endured a sharp dun with extraordinary patience. It is true, necessity drove him to retrench his expenses, and the improved examples about him induced him to amend his practice, but not until his farm was reduced to less than half its original size, by portions sold off at three different times to satisfy mortgages.

Well, what become of the young fifty acre farmer, we are asked. He has ceased to be a "fifty-acre farmer." He began by examining closely what improvements could be made, of whatever character and kind, whether cheap or expensive. Among these he was compelled to select first the cheap improvements, or those which promised the largest profits for the smallest outlay. One of the first of these was the draining of a three-acre alder swamp, a large portion of which he did with his own hands in autumn, between seeding and husking. He had read of Judge BUEL's success with *brush drains*; he constructed all the side or secondary channels by filling them at the bottom with the bushes cut from the ground, which enabled him to accomplish the work at less than half the usual price. These brush drains have now stood many years, and the brush being wholly excluded from the external air, has not decayed, and they carry off the little water required, being numerous, and at regular intervals. Now, observe the result: The alder swamp would not have sold originally for five dollars an acre; it now brings crops of corn, broom-corn and meadow grass, more than paying the interest on a hundred and fifty dollars per acre, besides all expenses. He doubled his manure by drawing from the most peaty portion of this drained swamp, large quantities of muck to his farm-yard, where it was kept comparatively dry till wanted, under a cheap slab and straw shed. By paying a small sum yearly, he was enabled to improve immensely the breed of his cattle, sheep, and swine, and which he thinks has returned the money thus expended at least twenty fold. The same keen attention to his business in other points, enabled him to effect many additional improvements, among which we may briefly mention a cheap and simple horse-power of his own construction, consisting of a rope running on the ends of radiating arms, which enabled him by means of one or two horses, as necessity required, to thrash his grain, saw his wood, drive his churn, turn his grind-stone, and slit picket-lath. It is true, he has now thrown this rude

machine aside for the greatly improved endless-chain power, but it answered his purpose for the time, before the days of improved machinery. But among all his outlays for the sake of economy, there is none which he thinks has repaid him equal to the subscription money applied in taking two agricultural periodicals, costing him a dollar and a half yearly besides postage, and which, in connection with his own experience and good judgment, have been the chief guides in most of his great improvements. He has been enabled to add sixty more acres to his land, and the whole presents a beautiful specimen of neat, finished, and profitable farming.

None of this is fiction. It was gradually accomplished by years of constant, steady, intelligent perseverance.

A great loss occurs to the majority of farmers from too meagre an expenditure for implements—the effective medium for the action of all the labor. The eagerness to secure big farms, at the cost of their profitable culture, is a most fruitful source of bad husbandry. We observe by the last census, that the cash value of farms in the Union is over three thousand million dollars, and the value of farm implements only a hundred and fifty millions; that is, each farm worth three thousand dollars, has, on an average, only a hundred and fifty dollars worth of plows, cultivators, rollers, carts, wagons, harrows, fanning mills, straw cutters, root slicers, harness, shovels, spades, forks, hoes, horse and hand rakes, scythes, cradles, axes, hammers, sleds, wood saws, hay knives, ox yokes, chains, &c., &c., to say nothing of reapers, grain-drills and threshing machines, which may possibly be borrowed or hired. Instead of only \$150, all these cannot be had, of good construction and quality, for much less than \$500, leaving a deficiency of about \$350 to be made up by slip-shod cultivation and by borrowing. In England, where taxes, poor-rates, rents and tithes, constitute together an enormous drawback on the profits of farming, and where, consequently, every operation must be performed to the best possible advantage, no one need hope for success who does not possess an amount of capital equal to forty dollars per acre, for procuring animals, implements, seeds, manure, and labor. "No prudent man," says the Mark Lane Express, "ought to rent more than he has that amount, at least, of available capital to go on with."

If, therefore, our farmers generally laid down at the commencement of their labors, the great fundamental principle that capital as well as farms is indispensable to success—that they might as well undertake to run a car on a single rail, as to farm with land only, or capital only—that they must especially lay in a heavy amount of that most efficient of all kinds of capital, *thorough knowledge*—they need no longer complain that they have a machine they cannot profitably manage—a locomotive without fuel, or without a competent engineer to take charge of its levers.

**PUMPKINS AND SQUASHES IN CORN-FIELDS.**—At an ag. meeting in N. Hampshire, a cultivator stated that he had found pumpkins, squashes and turneps, in corn-fields, to lessen the amount of corn. This is to be expected, as they must, as a matter of course, operate in the same way as weeds. He had also found, by using the corn-planting machine for every alternate row, a difference in favor of the corn-planter of about seven bushels per acre. So much for regularity and perfection of work.

#### Trans. of the N. Y. State Ag. Soc. for 1851.

This, like its predecessors, constitutes a collection of facts, speeches, reports, and essays, of the highest value. Since the publication of the first volume for 1841, there appears to have been a progressive increase in the interest and ability which have characterised their contents; and now, this eleventh volume, of nearly one thousand pages, fully keeps pace with the upward course of the series.

Among all contained in this large fund of rural knowledge, the Essay on the Agricultural value of Phosphate of Lime, by JOSEPH HARRIS, of Rochester, and the Report of Secretary JOHNSON on the Great London Exhibition, are especially conspicuous. The former is marked with thorough scientific knowledge, combined with clear discriminating judgment, and sound practical application; and the latter is distinguished by an interesting and full account of those objects at the great fair which more particularly interest the American Farmer. In addition to these works, the Agricultural Survey of the County of Madison, by GURDON EVANS; the prize essay of W. C. WATSON, on Sandy Soils; C. E. GOODRICH's observations on the Potato Rot, and accounts of his experiments in the production of new varieties from South American seed; the Reports of the State Premium Farms; and the experiments of JOHN JOHNSTON, of Geneva, and of T. G. YEO-MANS of Walworth, on tile-draining—are full of interesting facts and valuable suggestions.

To those of our readers who may not have an early opportunity to examine the entire contents of this volume, an abstract of some portions cannot fail to be acceptable.

#### Profits of Farming.

The statements furnished of the management of the four State premium farms, serve as a good answer to the hackneyed assertion that farming can never be made profitable, or that two or three per cent is all that can be expected from capital invested in land. The farm of N. HAYWARD & Son, of Brighton, Monroe County, contains 78 acres, 68 of which are "improved." The total expenses are given at \$1,470, which sum includes 7 per cent interest on 10,000, estimated value of the farm, that is about *ten dollars interest per acre*, besides all taxes, cost of manure, labor, seeds, insurance, and even newspaper subscriptions. The receipts are \$2,726, making the net profits \$1,256—that is \$18.48 per acre, after paying all expenses and interest. This is better than bank or railway stock. A few of the principal items of this large amount of profits, are the following:—wheat, \$404; hay, \$106; potatoes, 161; peaches, \$460; apples, \$162; onions, \$214; seed onions, \$100; garden and farm seeds, \$572, besides many crops of less value. It may be proper to state that the proprietors of this farm are among the best and most intelligent cultivators of fruit in the state, as the frequent premiums they have drawn from the State Society fully prove.

The farm of McCULLOCH & KIRTLAND, of Greenbush, consisting of 130 acres of land, chiefly occupied for dairy purposes, is managed at a cost of \$1,409 per annum; on which the receipts are \$3,358, leaving 1,948 as net profit, or about \$15 per acre, out of which interest is to be paid on the land.

ALBERT G. FORD's farm, in Fairfield, Herkimer county, contains 130 acres, 95 of which are improved land. The manufacture of cheese is the chief business; the yearly cost, \$926; the whole

receipts, including \$1,200 worth of cheese, and \$510 of hay, are \$2,396, or \$1,460 net profits. This is a net return of eleven dollars per acre for the whole farm, or over \$15 dollars per acre for the improved portion.

Now, such statements as these, (and we could furnish twenty more not unlike them from our own knowledge,) ought to convince all those who place the highest net profits on farm investments at three per cent, either that they are deficient in mental abilities, or have never informed themselves of the best modes of farming; and we advise them to buy at once this volume of Transactions, and read over carefully the statements of the admirable management of these premium farms, and see if they cannot make some improvement on their present superficial, skinning, earth-robbing system.

#### A Specimen of Neatness and Order.

Jefferson county has been long celebrated for its agricultural intelligence—at least of that most worthy portion of its citizens who have sustained its excellent agricultural society; and it stands very high on the catalogue of *dairy* counties. When, therefore, the particular dairy is pointed out to us, which took the first premium last year, and which still maintains distinctly its pre-eminence we cannot fail to regard it with a good deal of interest. This dairy, belonging to AMOS GOULDING, we are informed, consists of only twelve cows, “and had on hand, August 23d, 1,600 lbs., packed in 50 lb. tubs; adding one-third for the balance of the season, which is a fair estimate, will show a yield of 200 lbs. to the cow, over and above the use of the family; this, at 15 cents per lb., the price contracted for, will show the proceeds of each cow, from butter alone, at \$30,” or \$40 at present prices. The committee which examined this dairy, are confident the butter is equal to any Goshen ever tasted by them. Now for the explanation of this success. The committee found that the proprietor possessed not only a model dairy, but a *model housewife*. “Every thing,” say they, “appertaining to this dairy, every article and place, which came under the care of Mrs. Goulding, showed the marks of system, industry, and economy; from the kitchen to the cellar, everything was the same, a perfect model of neatness and good housewifery.”

#### The Culture of the Hop.

Mr. TUCKER—In answer to your call in the Oct. Cultivator, for “any one of your readers to give you, from his own experience, an article on the culture of the hop,” I accept the invitation, and proceed to give, in as concise a way as I can, the general method of cultivating hops.

From considerable observation, added to seven years experience in the growing of this important crop, I may state in the first place, as one of the most important things necessary to the successful cultivation of this vine, is the selection of a suitable piece of ground. A very general remark in this hop-growing region is, that almost any land that will produce good corn, will also, with good care and high cultivation, produce good hops; and although this may be true to a certain extent, yet it is evident that soils composed of certain elements, of which others are destitute, are those best adapted to the growing of hops. The opinion of the writer is, that soils of gravelly loam, with retentive sub-soils, are the best found in this section.

The ground selected for hops should be level, or nearly so, as the high cultivation required will

keep the land so mellow that it will be liable to wash and gulley, and thereby injure its fertility, if it is not nearly level. By all means avoid planting hops on steep side-hills.

The ground selected, the next thing requisite will be to put it in a proper state of cultivation to receive and nourish the roots. The most effectual way of doing this, is to till the ground thoroughly the previous year, with some hoed crop, (corn or potatoes, for instance.) A heavy coat of manure should be applied broad-cast, and well worked into the soil with the plow. It should also be plowed deep, and sub-soiled, to loosen the earth below the ordinary depth of surface plowing, (which is generally too shallow for any crop) as the roots of the hop, like most other plants, will spread and flourish best in deep, mellow soils. The fact of their roots running deep, will not be disputed by any one who has ever cultivated them, or attempted to plow up an old yard, as, in doing the latter, I have frequently found them to set a good team, their roots running straight down to the depth of three or four feet.

After the ground is made rich and mellow, and harrowed level and smooth, the best, as I think, and easiest way to mark the rows, is with a horse and light plow. There are two methods in use here of setting the hills. I have fields set both ways, and hardly know which I prefer. The first and old-fashioned way, is to draw our furrows as straight as possible—from east to west, seven feet apart—from north to south eight feet, and plant the roots where the furrows cross, so that the hill will be about level with the surrounding earth. This gives 770 odd hills to the acre. When set in this way, two poles are used to the hill, and two vines to each pole.

The other way, and it is preferred by some, is to mark the rows five feet apart each way, and set one pole to each hill. This will give a trifle over 1,700 hills to an acre. It is readily seen that the last method gives more than double the number of hills to the acre, and requires also more poles.

I believe that more hops may be grown on the same ground set by the last method than by the other; but there are some objections to it which must not be overlooked. It is our invariable practice in Otsego, to manure our hops well in the fall, before the ground freezes, by putting several shovels-full of good manure on each hill. This enriches at the same time that it helps to prevent them from freezing and dying out in winter. Now, every hill of hops requires about a certain quantity of manure to enrich and protect it properly, and if we have 1,700 instead of 770 hills to manure, we shall require more than double the manure to every acre, and more poles, both of which are scarce and dear.

The roots for planting, are obtained from old hills. They are called runners, branching from the main or bed root, in all directions, and running near the surface of the ground, sometimes several feet in length. They are easily obtained by digging with a hook, similar to a potato hook. These runners are full of joints and eyes, and should be cut in pieces, each piece to contain two sets of eyes. Three pieces, if the roots are good, (and if not they should not be used) are sufficient to plant a hill. Some prefer setting the roots in the ground endwise, but from experience in both ways, I prefer planting them horizontally, and placing the pieces in the form of a triangle. They may be planted either in fall or spring, but if done in spring, as is the common practice, it should be

done as early as the state of the ground will admit, which will be several days before it is time to plant corn.

We generally plant our hop-yards the first year with corn, not expecting any returns that year from the hops, as they require one season to get vigorously and firmly rooted, and in this way we obtain just three-fourths of a crop of corn, letting the hops occupy the rest of the ground, and hoeing them as often as we do the corn.

Nothing pays so poorly for half-way cultivation, as hops, and the farmer who would realize profits by them, need have no fears of cultivating them too highly.

After the yard is ready to pole, the first thing to be done in spring, is to remove the manure from the tops of the hills, and as soon after as the frost will permit, the poles should be set. Where the hills are only five feet apart, the poles should be set perpendicular—where they are 7 by 8 feet apart, they are set two to a hill about one foot apart on the hill, as they run from north to south. They should also incline a little from the hill so as to divide the space at the tops, and this will prevent the branches from becoming entangled with each other.

Yards do not generally need grubbing the first year they are polled; but after that they need grubbing annually. The runners before spoken of, are then taken off near the hill, as they will otherwise take the sap that should go to the vine. Immediately after grubbing, a man with his team and load of manure should follow, and into the trench formed by grubbing, should place a little fresh and strong manure. A boy must follow with his hoe, and cover up the manure just laid down. This is called priming, and is the last manuring they get for the season. The act of grubbing, it will be observed, not only clears the hill of unnecessary roots, but cleanses it, and leaves it all fresh. It will remain so till the vines begin to need tying, and this should be begun as soon as any are long enough to reach the pole, and be continued from time to time as they may need, until they reach the top of the poles.

In the mean time, a good deal of trimming is necessary, as no pole should have more than two good vines to run on it; all extra vines must be cut off, and any other little intruder that makes its appearance on the hills must be plucked up.

In addition to this, the ground must be plowed, cultivated, and hoed several times during the summer—at least sufficient to keep the land mellow and free from weeds, for nothing is so unsightly as a hop-yard all grown up to weeds. Care should be taken not to haul dirt to the hills, but to keep it away, and leave the vine nearly or quite bare, where it unites with the root, during the early part of the season, as the grub which eats off the vine just at the surface of the ground, will be doing his work then. The grub generally does his work and disappears in the early part of July, and then the yard should be hilled, which is about the last thing to be done before picking.

I have now given you the details of raising hops up to the time of picking, as practiced by myself and many others; if this should in some degree serve your purpose, and you think it would be of service to your readers, I will in some future number, send you another article on picking, drying, preparing them for market, cost of cultivation, &c. AN OTSEGO HOP-GROWER.

We are greatly obliged to our correspondent for the preceding, and shall be glad to receive the article he promises in relation to finishing the

**Potatoes in Tan, Plaster, and in Ashes.**

Some interesting experiments have been lately made with these different substances, which afford valuable results. The Journal of Agriculture furnishes a statement of trials made with potatoes covered with six inches of salt hay; with slackened lime in the hill and salt over it; with lime only, and that on the surface; with a shovel full of *tan* in the hill; with a shovel full of marsh mud; and with a shovel of cattle manure. The salt hay, slackened lime and salt, manure, and mud, were all attended with equal results; the lime on the surface and lime in the hill, afforded one-sixteenth more; while the tan under the seed yielded one-fifth more, and tan on the seed one-eighth more—the latter being larger, smoother, and better than the others. To what cause is the favorable influence of the tan to be ascribed? Some, doubtless, would refer it to its chemical composition; but the more probable cause is its mechanical influence, in regulating the quantity of moisture in the soil. Unfortunately, we are not informed whether the soil was light or heavy.

From a set of experiments detailed in the Genesee Farmer, on "a dark clay loam," in Schoharie Co., N. Y., it appears that in all cases the application of ashes, in the hill, or ashes mixed with a smaller portion of plaster, resulted in the rotting of a portion of the crop—much more so than when nothing was applied. On the other hand, the application of plaster alone resulted in the entire soundness of the crop. Further investigation may be needed to determine how much of this result was owing to chemical, how much to mechanical, and how much to other or accidental causes. We have often observed that where the soil contained adhesive portions, which stuck like mud to the toes, that such potatoes always rotted first. Could the ashes or plaster have controlled this particular influence? It is proper to remark that the ashes were followed with a much larger crop than their non-application.

**Curing Hams.**

A friend, who has cured hams, from a recipe given in the Cultivator in 1844, for two or three years past, assures us that he has never seen better hams, and suggests the re-publication of the recipe. It is as follows:

**HAMS.**—The following mode of preparing hams, we have practiced for several years, and can with confidence recommend it to others:

For every hundred pounds of meat, take five pints of good molasses, (or five pounds of brown sugar,) five ounces saltpetre, and eight pounds rock salt—add three gallons of water, and boil the ingredients over a gentle fire, skimming off the froth or scum as it rises. Continue the boiling until the salt, &c., is dissolved. Have the ham nicely cut and trimmed, packed in casks with the shank end down, as the pickle will thus strike in better. When the pickle, prepared as above, is sufficiently cool, pour it over the hams. They may lie in pickle from two to six weeks, according to the size of the pieces, or the state of the weather—more time being required in cold, than in warm weather. Beef or mutton hams, intended for smoking or drying, may be cured according to this mode, and will be found excellent.

Much of the goodness of hams depends on smoking. They should be hung at such a distance from the fire, as not to be heated. They should also be hung up with the shank end downward, as this will prevent the escape of their juices by dripping. Small hams, wanted for immediate use, will answer with two weeks' smoking, but larger ones, and those wanted for keeping, should be smoked four weeks or more.

Different articles are used for smoking. Perhaps sawdust from hard wood, where it can be conveniently had, is on the whole to be preferred. Corncobs are first rate, and are said by some to make the "sweetest" smoke of anything. Chips of maple and hickory, or the small branches of those kinds of wood, do well.

To manure and lime wet lands, is to throw manure, lime, and labor away.

**NOTES FOR THE WEEK.**

The publisher of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, deems it proper to state, that he will be assisted in the management of the work, by JOHN J. THOMAS, of Macedon, who has been a regular contributor to the Cultivator for ten or twelve years past—by JOSEPH WARREN, of this city, and B. MUNN, of New-York; and he trusts that with their aid, and the continuance of the large correspondence so liberally extended to the Cultivator heretofore, he will be enabled to present his subscribers with such a sheet as shall satisfy all their reasonable expectations.

**AGENTS.**—Good Agents are wanted for our papers, in all parts of the country. We should be glad to secure the services of some competent person in the vicinity of each post office, where the postmaster does not act as agent, who would canvass the town thoroughly for subscribers to The Country Gentleman and The Cultivator. Any person disposed to do this, will please address us on the subject.

In the meantime we shall be greatly obliged to any of our friends and subscribers, who may be pleased to aid in promoting the circulation of our journals, by making them known, and soliciting, when convenient, subscribers for them. In this way large additions might be made to our circulation, and with very little trouble to any one.

As we have sent out all the Specimen Nos., which we printed, we issue this, our first regular number of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, two weeks in advance of its date. The second number will appear on the second Thursday of January, and the future Nos. on each successive Thursday.

The postage on the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN is only twenty-six cents a year, to any part of the United States—payable quarterly in advance, at the office where the paper is received. To all post-offices in the county of Albany, it goes free.

**THE STATE FAIR TOO EARLY.**—We are frequently in the receipt of letters from different parts of the state, complaining that the Fair is held quite too early in the season. Farmers in the wheat growing districts, are in the midst of their autumn work, the weather is usually very oppressively warm, and the dust intolerable. A farmer in Steuben county, in a recent communication, says, "Last year there were several hundreds from our county in attendance, and at least thirty from our little town; this year not over four or five persons went from the county. I presume I have been asked a thousand times why the Fair was held so early." The Executive committee of the Society should take this matter into consideration. We doubt not that the postponement of the Fair to two or three weeks later, would accommodate better a large portion of our working farmers.

**AGE OF ANIMALS.**—A correspondent in Chenango county, under the signature of "Augustus," charges that a man entered a three-year old animal at the last State Fair, in the class of two year olds, and received a premium for it in that class, when he knew that it was over three years old. Such deceptions are sometimes undoubtedly practiced, in spite of all the vigilance of the Society and its committees. If Augustus will communicate the name of the party, with the proof of the fact, to the Secretary of the Society, the person will not be permitted again to enter the list of competitors for the Society's premium.

**New-York State Ag. Society.**

The members of this society should recollect that at the last annual meeting, the time for holding the future annual meetings was changed to the *second Wednesday of February*, at which time the next meeting will be held at the Capitol, in this city.

The Executive Committee held their regular meeting for December, on the 2d, at the society's rooms, in the Old State Hall.

There were present—E. P. Prentice, John Delafield and George Vail, Ex-Presidents; Lewis G. Morris, A. Van Bergen and Charles Lee, Vice-Presidents; Wm. Kelly, John A. Corey, John Butterfield, Executive Committee; Luther Tucker, Treasurer; E. Corning, Jr., and B. P. Johnson, Secretaries.

A letter having been received by the secretary, from the president, HENRY WAGER, informing the Board that, from severe illness, he was unable to be present at the meeting of the Board, very much to his regret, E. P. PRENTICE, Esq., Ex-President, was appointed President pro tem.

Mr. Johnson presented a report from Mr. Wager and himself, delegates to the Fair and Exhibition of the Agricultural Societies of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Talbot county, which gave a very interesting statement in relation to the improvements now in progress in the husbandry of that part of the country. It was ordered published in the Journal of the Society.

A letter to the president, from J. Delafield, Esq., was read, on the importance of introducing into the State, the cultivated grasses of Great Britain, for the purpose of improving our meadow and pasture lands. The importance of the subject was fully appreciated by the Board.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, Messrs. Delafield, Kelly and Johnson were appointed a committee, to report at the next meeting of the Board, on the subject, as to the best measures to be adopted to accomplish the object.

Mr. Delafield presented to the Board, for their examination, maps of the county of Seneca, and several other counties of the State, prepared with great care, and stated that it was designed to complete the series of maps for the entire State. The Board, aware of the great deficiency existing, at the present time, in the maps of the different counties of the State, which, so far as the surveys of counties made under their direction, has been most manifest,

**Resolved,** That they deem it a matter of great importance to the agricultural interest of the State, that a set of correct maps should be obtained, and that they trust that Mr. Delafield will be enabled to secure their completion.

Col. L. G. Morris presented to the society, on behalf of H. Strafford, Esq., London, vol. 10 of the Short Horn Herd Book; and on behalf of John Tanner Davy, Esq., Davy's Devon Herd Book.

The thanks of the society were tendered to these gentlemen for their valuable donations to the library of the society.

On motion of Col. Morris, H. Strafford, Esq., and John Tanner Davy, Esq., were elected corresponding members of the society.

On motion of Mr. Johnson,

**Resolved,** That we deem it of great importance to the agriculturists of our State and nation, that the lectures delivered by the late Prof. John Pitkin Norton, before the Albany University, in the winter of 1852, be published.

**Resolved,** That Messrs. Prentice and Johnson, be a committee to correspond with the relatives of Prof. Norton, in relation to their publication, and requesting them for the Transactions of the Society, provided they are not to be published in any other form, (the copy right to be secured to Mr. Norton's representatives.)

Weekly meetings during the session of the Legislature were ordered to be held at the Agricultural Rooms, and Messrs. Prentice, Tucker and Johnson, were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Vail and Mr. Johnson were appointed a committee in relation to an application for the enlargement of the Old State Hall.

The judges for the winter meeting were selected, and the secretary directed to inform the gentlemen, and ascertain previous to the next meeting of the Board, whether they would attend.

**Vermont State Ag. Society.**

At the annual meeting of this society, held at Montpelier on the 19th Oct., the following officers were elected for the present year:

Frederick Holbrook, Brattleborough, President.

Edwin Hammond, Middlebury; Joseph W. Colburn, Springfield; H. B. Stacy, Burlington; and Joseph W. Fairbanks, St. Johnsbury, Vice-Presidents.

Justin A. Beckwith, Middlebury, Cor. Secretary.

Geo. W. Strong, Rutland, Rec. Secretary.

John Spalding, Montpelier, Treasurer.

John H. Vail, Bennington; Henry Keys, Newbury; Geo. T. Hodges, Rutland; Portus Baxter, Derby; and B. B. Newton, St. Albans, Additional Directors.

A meeting of the Board is to be held at Middlebury, on the third Tuesday of January, for the purpose of forming a Premium List, and making arrangements for the next Fair.

## The Grazer.

What shall we do for Fodder this Winter?

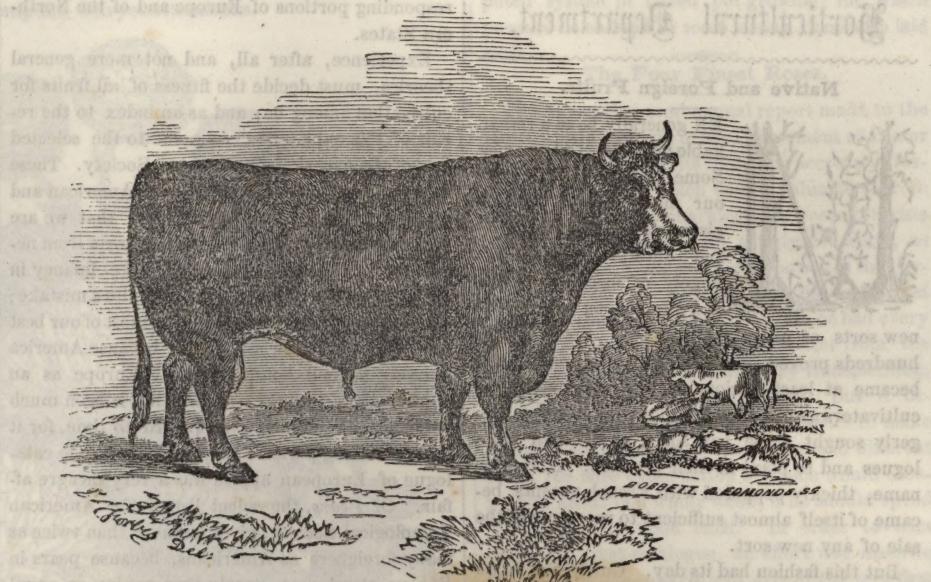


In the present scarcity of hay throughout a large portion of the country, the anxious inquiry has been made a thousand times, "How shall we bring our animals safely through the winter?" Many have answered it by selling off at low prices a large portion of their stock; but we believe that taking the country at large, the entire deficiency might be made up, *by saving what is now wasted*—and that too, wasted in a way of which one-half our ordinary farmers are entirely unconscious. "Is it the treading of hay by the cattle into the mud?" eagerly asks one—"Is it by neglecting the use of the straw-cutter?" inquires another—"Is it by irregular and improvident feeding—by allowing animals to injure each other—by permitting our hay to be spoiled by exposure?" are the various questions of others. It is none of these sources of loss, although all are to be carefully avoided, that we refer to. What we mean is the wasteful practice of using hay and meal *for the simple purpose of fuel*—for maintaining the animal warmth of sheep and cattle—but which ought to be used solely for keeping up their flesh. "What! burn up our hay to heat our barns and sheds? Impossible!"

Permit us briefly to explain this matter, for the benefit of that portion of our readers who may not have given it their attention.

Let us inquire why it is that the human body, and the bodies of warm blooded animals generally, (except at the surface merely,) are always at the same temperature, whether in summer or in winter, in cold climates or in hot—why, in the intense cold within the arctic circle, where the mercury of the thermometer is frozen solid, the heat of the body is as great as under the burning sun of the torrid zone? In those cold regions the heat is constantly escaping from the body at a prodigious rate, in the same way that the heat of a stove is constantly passing into the air which surrounds it, and is carried off by the currents. Where does it all come from to supply this constant waste?

By breathing, a large quantity of oxygen from the air is constantly received into the lungs. The circulation of the blood brings this oxygen into contact with the carbon and hydrogen of the blood, both of which are derived from the food. The oxygen combines with these two elements, and in the act of combining heat is given out, in precisely the same way, only more slowly, that it is given out by the burning of wood. Combustion in pure oxygen gas is very intense, and its heat greater than that of the hottest furnaces; combustion in common air is slower, and the heat correspondingly less intense. But in the animal body many hours are required to consume the same amount of oxygen as in quick combustion. But the *real amount* of heat is the same; its intensity is diminished as the time is lengthened. This is further proved by the fact that animals which breathe rapidly, have the highest animal heat. A child has a more rapid respiration than a man, and we accordingly find its temperature two or three degrees higher. Birds breathe more rapidly than quadrupeds, and have four or five degrees more of heat. Fishes and reptiles, known as cold-



"Trump," the property of Mr. ALLEN AYRAULT, Genesee, Livingston county, N. Y.,—received the first premium for Hereford bulls over three years old, at the Show of the New-York State Agricultural Society, 1851. He was bred by Wm. H. SOTHAM, long known as an importer and breeder of Hereford stock. "Trump" is a capital bull. The figure gives a good representation of him, except that it is too thick and coarse in the buttocks. He is a good constitutioned, well-made and thrifty animal, and would produce stock which would prove well either in the yoke or stall.

blooded animals, breathe very slowly. Active exercise increases the amount of bodily heat, by throwing the blood more rapidly into the lungs, and which thus combines faster with the oxygen, or in other words produces a more rapid combustion.

Hence more food is required for animals in winter, to keep up the more rapid waste of heat. And hence too, domestic animals, exposed to cold winds and snow storms, require more food than those sheltered in stables. A starving animal of any kind is soonest frozen to death. Beasts of prey in the arctic regions, far exceed in voracity those of the torrid zone. The inhabitants of the extreme north consume almost incredible quantities of food. Every farmer knows that it requires more grain to fatten beef and pork in the depth of winter, than during the milder weather of autumn.

Now, when domestic animals are exposed to the severe cold of winds and snow storms, there must be three resulting alternatives. Either a large amount of food must be given them to keep up the heat, besides what is needed for aliment; or the flesh must be drawn upon and reduced for the same purpose, developing the skeleton; or else the animal must freeze to death. One of these three alternatives is inevitable. The last, no one desires; the first is a costly process; the second is not less to be dreaded. Now, our advice to all is, to avoid this triple-horned dilemma, by securing the warmth of comfortable shelter.

To prevent, therefore, the consumption of high-priced fodder for the purposes of fuel, a most wasteful source of heat, we must come at once to the practical details of warm stables, dry sheds, and a free use of good litter and thick horse blankets. The winds which sweep through the cracks often seen in barns, carry off every winter many hard dollar's worth of food; the comfortless wet floors, and yards of snow and mud, absorb a still larger portion. The practice of even blanketing cows, in connection with a thorough attention to cleanliness, has been adopted by some to great advantage. We have known an intelligent farm-

er, who, by providing warm, close, and comfortable houses for his sheep in winter, actually lost less than in summer; and we have heard of another of extensive experience in sheep raising, who is about to erect a house in such a manner as to be moderately warmed in the severest weather by stove heat, as being more economical than maintaining the heat by feeding.

This is a subject that ought to receive a more thorough attention from farmers generally; for these facts do not rest on the basis of uncertain theory, but are established as thoroughly as any truths in farming. Their full appreciation generally in a country where there are several months of freezing weather, would, we doubt not, lead to a corresponding practice in the erection of shelters, that would save the country at large many hundred thousand dollars in every year.

**IMPORTATION OF IMPROVED STOCK.—LEWIS G. MORRIS, Esq., of Fordham, Westchester county, whose annual sales of improved stock, have attracted so much attention for two or three years past, has recently returned from Europe, with several very valuable additions to his herd, purchased by himself, after a careful examination of the best yards in England. They consist of a fine young Durham bull and two heifers, two Devon cows and a bull; the latter and one of the cows from the celebrated stock of Mr. Quartley; the other a prize cow, and both cows in calf by Mr. Quartley's prize bull—some South Down sheep from Jonas Webb, and some Suffolk, Essex, and Berkshire pigs. These animals will enable Mr. Morris to give increased value to his herds, and cannot fail to excite a higher interest in his future sales.**

Mr. Morris, also purchased a pair of superior Durhams, for NOEL J. BECAR, Esq., of Brooklyn.

Mr. E. CORNING, Jr., of this city, has recently imported three fine Herefords, a bull and two cows, selected especially for him in England. The sire of the heifers was Lord Berwick's celebrated bull, which received the first prize in his class, at the Royal Society's show in 1851.

## Horticultural Department.

## Native and Foreign Fruits.



EN generally have a remarkable proneness to extremes. Some years ago, a few of our most eminent pomologists, with great liberality and enterprise, imported largely of foreign varieties of fruits, among which were new sorts of pears by hundreds. Some of the hundreds proved quite valuable, and many more became at least fashionable, and nurserymen and cultivators generally throughout the country, eagerly sought these new sorts, to fill their catalogues and to plant in their grounds. A foreign name, thickly peppered with French accents, became of itself almost sufficient to recommend the sale of any new sort.

But this fashion had its day. Cultivators came to find, after the first varnish of novelty wore off, that most of these new foreigners were nothing but simple and plain third or fourth rate pears, and most of them, in fact, were rejected as worthless. Just as examples, the reader may look at the history of the *Reine des Pays Bas*, *Belle et Bonne*, *Belle de Bruxelles*, *Colmar d'Aremberg*, and the *Great Citron* of Bohemia. The trees which had been brought at great expense, "a thousand briny leagues," became indeed absolute nuisances, at least many of them, and they were replaced with others having such simple home-spun names as Bloodgood, Buffum, and Dix. The current now set entirely in favor of the Native American party; all foreigners were regarded at least with suspicion; and we have even seen, in one of our horticultural journals, those old European varieties, the Virgallieu and Bartlett, designated as *American Seedlings*, on account, undoubtedly, of their hardiness and fitness for our soil and climate.

We could never perceive why the seed of a pear grown on and dropped into the soil of France or Germany, should produce a sort, unfitted, essentially, to a similar soil and climate, in a different longitude. The truth is, some of our hardest and most vigorous trees, bearing the heaviest crops of fine, smooth, and valuable fruit, and uniformly succeeding in a large portion of our country, are of those sorts whose origin happened to be on the other side of the Atlantic. Among these we may name the Flemish Beauty, Louise Bonne de Jersey, and Vicar of Winkfield pears, and the Gravenstein and Astrachan apples.

As a general rule, the known native fruits of any country, are best adapted to that country—and why? Because out of many thousand seedlings, they have been selected as the most fitted to that peculiar region—experience showed them the best adapted to it—but there might have been many others among those thrown aside, better adapted to other parts of the world. This opinion is proved by the fact that some foreign fruits are actually better here than in their native localities.

Every fruit-grower is aware that certain fruits succeed in one place and fail in others; and that the same sorts are more likely to succeed in contiguous districts, than in such as are widely separated. But a difference of latitude is usually far greater in its results than a difference in longitude. Hence the northern and southern portions of the United States, as for example, New-England and Carolina, may be far more unlike than cor-

responding portions of Europe and of the Northern States.

Experience, after all, and not mere general theories, must decide the fitness of all fruits for cultivation among us; and as an index to the result of this experience, we point to the selected lists of the American Pomological Society. These lists are made up promiscuously of American and foreign sorts. It is often asserted that we are obliged to take a part of the foreign sorts from necessity, our country being yet in the infancy in the propagation of sorts. This is quite a mistake; among apples, for instance, we find most of our best sorts of American origin, simply because America exceeds beyond comparison all Europe as an apple-raising country; neither has it been much behind other countries in regard to time, for it was not a long period back, that the whole catalogue of European apples was a very meagre affair. Of *Pears*, the select list of the American Pomological Society, gives us more than twice as many foreigners as Americans, because pears in Europe stand more nearly than apples an equal chance with us, and hence the efforts there made in raising new sorts, exceed ours, although we have not been asleep on this subject. Our peaches are nearly all of our own producing; our cherries mostly are borrowed from our neighbors across the water.

The opinion to which we more particularly object as erroneous, and to controvert which we make these remarks, is, that there is a certain degree of *inherent* feebleness or unsoundness in all varieties of foreign origin, and that it is unsafe to adopt them for extensive cultivation; and that American varieties alone possess sound constitutions, and are therefore only fitted for long endurance. We believe this notion to be fully disproved by the fact that a large portion of our best and thoroughly proved standard fruits are of this class, among which we may name the Madeleine, Flemish Beauty, Louise Bonne of Jersey, Urbaniste, Winkfield, Beurre d'Anjou, Bartlett, and Winter Nelis, among pears; and Black Tartarian, Elton, May Duke, Black Heart, and Black Eagle, among cherries. We will not adduce the extraordinary success which has attended the cultivation of that celebrated old French pear, the White Doyenne or Virgallieu, in large districts of the Union; for the cracking and failure of this pear in some other districts, is pointed to as a proof of the comparative worthlessness of imported varieties, notwithstanding that some recent American pears have been found to crack quite as badly at the same places, and in the very neighborhood of their origin.

## Interesting Facts in Fruit Culture.

The Reports of the State Fruit Committees to the American Pomological Society, at its late session in Philadelphia, contain many valuable facts, some of which we present to our readers.

*Mulching*.—In the Report from Maine, the committee state that very little rain fell throughout the entire summer months, and that the value of mulching has been seen in an eminent degree in the case of newly planted trees, which made a fine growth; while of those not so treated, many failed, and others barely survived.

*Curculio*.—In the neighborhood of Bangor, Me., we are assured the curculio appears to have suspended operations, at least for the past season. Now, it would be exceedingly interesting to some of us in other places, where these indefatigable little scoundrels place their death-stamp on every

thing they can find, to know the cause of this escape—perhaps if we knew, the thing might be done again.

*Period of Ripening*.—The same report informs us that heat and drouth have caused some pears to ripen prematurely and irregularly, so that on the first day of autumn they had ripe at once, Dearborn's Seedling, Rostiezer, Bartlett, Beurre d'Amalis, Belle Lucrative, Flemish Beauty, and others.

*Baldwin Apple*.—We observe the same complaint, noticed by other observers, of the great liability of the young trees of this otherwise admirable apple, to be winter killed in this northern locality.

*Pears in Maine*.—It has been found by the use of the Angers Quince, and a careful selection of sorts adapted to it, that many varieties can be grown in the highest perfection, which either entirely failed on the pear root, or would not repay the trouble and cost of cultivation. Among those mentioned, the Bartlett has been found harder on the quince—the Winkfield good, often very good, improving with the age of the tree—and can be grown cheaper per bushel than any other pear. The Seckel proves a failure in four cases out of five, the trees neither growing nor bearing. The Flemish Beauty, (grown only on pear stock,) "combines more good qualities than any other pear," a character it is likely to assume in other states.

*Red Astrachan*.—In Maine this apple is thought to succeed even better than in other parts of New-England; in Vermont, it is "hardy and very fair;" in New-York, its value is well known; the report from central Pennsylvania states that it is "acid and dry."

*Northern Autumn Apples*.—The Duchess of Oldenburgh and the Gravenstein, are both spoken of as succeeding admirably throughout the northern regions of the Union—the latter as perhaps the best autumn apple of Vermont. An interesting fact as to the season of ripening of the Gravenstein has just been related to us by Major PATRICK, of Sacket's Harbor. The neighborhood of his residence is raked in two directions by the piercing winds from the north, and across the icy portions of Lake Ontario from the west. It is a severe climate for fruits. The result is, that the Gravenstein has become a *winter* apple, good and well kept specimens of which he has eaten in spring.

*Productive Strawberries*.—Joshua Pierce, of Washington, furnishes the statement of John Slater, of the amount of a crop of Alice Maude Strawberries. This variety is stated to be at least twice the size of Hovey's Seedling, at that locality. The bed contained about 30 square rods—it furnished about 40 bushels of strawberries, (over 1,200 quarts,) or at the rate of 213 bushels per acre. The rows in the beds were 2 feet apart, and the plants 8 to 12 inches asunder in the rows; and they were kept clear of weeds and runners.

*Severe Cold in Virginia*.—The report of Yardley Taylor, of Loudon county, states that the thermometer sunk there, the past winter, to 10° to 14° below zero, destroying at least one-half the peach buds.

*Swine for the Curculio*.—The same writer states, that the plum crop, when unprotected, is usually entirely destroyed by this insect—but that keeping swine in the plum yard, after five years trial, proves very successful. J. C. Holmes, of Michigan, saves effectually his rarer sorts, by bags of mosquito netting.

## Dwarf or Pompone Chrysanthemums.

Few novelties have added so much to the stores of the florist for early winter use, as the New Dwarf Chrysanthemums. Being perfectly hardy, they are adapted to the wants of cottage gardens as well as green-houses, as they are equally fitted for the open ground or for pot culture. We have therefore given a wood cut which gives a good idea of their general appearance. The flowers themselves, are many of them no larger than our engraving, whilst their colors are as brilliant as those of the larger varieties. The plants, (if stopped as they ought to be in summer, while growing,) do not grow more than a foot or 15 inches high, and if well managed, will, in November and Decem-

ber, be a mass of bloom. The mode of culture is as follows: In April or May put several cuttings or shoots from an old plant, into a pot, round the edge, or into the open ground in any light soil. Shade them for a fortnight from the mid-day sun; they will root without glass over them, but if there is a frame or hand glass to put over so much the better. In six weeks stop them; that is, nip off the top with the finger and thumb; this should be above the third leaf from the bottom. New shoots will come out from the eye of every leaf in a few days. As soon as these shoots are about half an inch long, pot singly such as are wished to be bloomed in pots, and plant the others in the garden. The best compost to grow them in is half sandy loam and half old hot bed manure. Take care during the summer to give them water over head and at root, so that they never flag for want of it. Those in pots should, in about four or five weeks from the time they are potted, be shifted into a larger pot. The proper time for doing this is as soon as the pots are filled with roots, which can be easily ascertained by turning one out of the pot, by tapping the edge of the pots on the edge of the potting bench. The pots should be plunged into the ground, or in coal ashes, putting a piece of broken pot for each to stand on, to prevent the worms entering. In October the pots may be brought into the stove or green-house, to bloom. Liquid manure water given at the root

twice a week, will add to the beauty of the foliage, and to the size and color of the bloom; but they will flower well in the above compost without it. The best varieties are La Fiancee, white; Daphnis, purple; Boizard, yellow; Circe, rosy pink, and Bouton de Versailles, mulberry.

## Visits to Green-Houses.

**KENWOOD.**—We had the pleasure of visiting Mr. JOEL RATHBONE's grounds, at Kenwood, during the past month; and we were gratified to find that the horticultural beauties of this finely situated country seat, are increasing rapidly in their attraction. The plant-house is well stocked, and the plants are clean. The collection of cacti, although limited in extent, numbers amongst its varieties many of the most esteemed sorts, and are evidently kept with care. There appeared to be a good collection of the new scarlet geraniums, in which we remarked Cerise Unique, Princess Alice, and many others. The specimen plants were few, but the gardener, Mr. —, has not, we find, had charge of the establishment long enough to carry out the improvements which he contemplated in that way; but he has some good young plants of the Australian hard-wooded species in course of training, which promise well. A cold viney adjoins the plant-house, in which the canes look strong, and are well ripened; and we were told by Mr. —, that he intends this year to test the dis-



puted system of coiled pot-growing; for which purpose he showed us some strong ripe canes laid aside.

## The Four Finest Roses.

The interesting semi-annual report made to the Horticultural Society of the Department of Lower Seine, by A. PERON, its recording secretary, furnishes a statement which will be valuable to rose amateurs. After remarking that rose culturists were formerly satisfied with twenty-five sorts, as comprising the whole catalogue, he states that hybridization has now increased this list to at least *three thousand*, from which roses can be had every day in the year by attention to shelter from the cold, heat, moisture, and wind, by transplanting, training, nipping, and by fire heat. But it becomes rather a puzzling test for a novice to make a proper selection out of three thousand different roses, the bare examination of which would occupy him about one whole week, if he should spend but a minute upon each. In order to trim down this great catalogue, an effort was made to reduce it to *one hundred and fifty* of the very first—the first pick—all of which should be real paragons of beauty. Six distinguished judges were selected, and their votes stood as follows:—

4 roses rec'd each 6 votes, or were unanimously approved.
8      "      5      "
26     "      4      "
49     "      3      "
53     "      2      "

The four standing at the head, were *Duchess of Sutherland*, *Geant des Batailles*, *Souvenir de la Malmaison*, and *La Reine*.

## Horticultural News.

A Pompone, or Dwarf Chrysanthemum was exhibited at the London Hort. Sociecie's Exhibition, in November last, called "Le Nain Be-Be," which has a faint smell like violets. We may hope, therefore, that this interesting winter family will soon number a fine scent amongst its attractions.

For keeping up a succession of green peas late in the fall, "Shilling's Grotto" Pea has recently proved one of the best kinds to grow.

A new turnep, raised by Mr. Chivas, of Chester, England, has been tested the past season in the Garden of the London Horticultural Society, and is reported by the Society to be "everything that the best kind of turneps should be."

A Fuchsia has been brought out by Messrs. Lutcombe & Prince, of Exeter, called F. Princeps, in the way of Corallina, which has induced Dr. Lindley to mention it in a leading article in the Gardeners' Chronicle, as a flower "the beauty of which we can scarcely find adequate language to describe." This from the Dr., whose predilections are not much in that way, is high praise, and leads us to wish to see it on this side of the Atlantic.

Dilcock's Pride, a new variety of Broccoli, is said by Mr. R. Dempsey, Honorary Secretary to the Horticultural Society of the city of York, England, to have gained the three premiums of that Society for Broccoli, both last year and the present. It may therefore be considered one of the best now grown.

A new pear has been this year grown in the Gardens of the London Horticultural Society, called "Beadwell's Seedling;" it originated with J. Beadwell, Esq., Tottenham, near London. The description given is this: "The fruit is nearly middle sized and turbinate; the skin pale yellowish green on the shaded side, and red next the sun. The flesh is melting, exceedingly juicy and rich. Its period of ripening is from the middle of September to the middle of October. It does not keep long. An abundant bearer, and cannot fail to become a favorite." B. M.

## The Fireside.



WINTER's evening at the fireside, is the very picture of comfort and content. Cold weather, for some reason, draws people closer together, and knits affections, which, in warmer seasons, are prone to stray beyond the limits of the home circle. Coming, by kind invitation, to your homes, THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN wishes you a HAPPY NEW-YEAR. Not in the empty compliment of the season, but as the honest sentiment of a heart that chooses to be in sympathy with you all, in the calm moments of fireside enjoyment. These long evenings will afford us opportunity of becoming better acquainted, and we hope our weekly visits will give rise to a lasting friendship. To those who bring here minds trained to reflection, and hearts alive to the lessons of truth and beauty which Nature everywhere teaches us, it is not necessary to say that winter, with its desolateness and chill, is not without its charms, its inspiration, and its pleasures. The summer landscape is varied in its tints,—the winter's is serene. The gorgeous beauty of summer leads us away from ourselves—the calmness of winter invites the mind to thought, and the heart to repose.

It is pleasant to close the blinds, dispose the curtains cheerfully, heap fresh fuel on the blazing fire, draw close together around the hearth, and sit down for an evening of solid, substantial, old-fashioned enjoyment—a right good time. However much the fashions change, and the externals of life vary, the spirit of social intercourse is always the same. Kindness and amiability, simplicity and sincerity, are the ruling virtues of home. The dignities and distinctions of the world soon slip away at the evening hour,—the titled man and the honest laborer, sit here as children once more. Disappointments and trials are forgotten, enmities and jealousies are hushed; for affection has soothed, tempered, and hallowed the heart, and blended in the sweet word HOME, the hopes and joys of life.

But the delight of the fireside fails of its purpose, if the idea of improvement does not mingle in all its pleasures. The rational soul derives no satisfaction from that which has no tendency to cultivate the mind, refine the feelings, and elevate the man. We would not be understood to censure those innocent recreations, which, while they relax the mind, and give an impulse to the spirits, do not weaken or debase. Such breathing places in the toil of life are as necessary as sleep, and as refreshing to the weary brain.

Still, however calm the surface of life, and however joyous the bubbles that play on its stream, there should be a strong undercurrent bearing us onward to higher and purer enjoyments. Next to the culture and exercise of the moral virtues, the culture of a sound literary taste is the surest means of securing this end.

In the sense in which we use the term, literary taste may be defined an interest in, and appreciation of the higher forms of truth, which are embodied in the thoughts of the truly great. In order to this appreciation, there is requisite some previous cultivation of the mind, which may be derived in a score of ways, according to the peculiar tendencies of each individual mind. Anything which induces observation, thought, and reflection,

is a means of education, and as such, forms a basis for an interest in everything truthful, beautiful, and elevating. A pure literary taste is distinguishable on the one hand, from a romantic love of the ideal, and on the other from a narrow minded utilitarianism. It is the result of a well-balanced and vigorous mind, that from its familiarity with thought, has acquired a nice sense of discrimination, which craves the good and beautiful, and rejects the worthless. Such a taste is to the mind a source of constant satisfaction and improvement. It finds new pleasures in the ordinary avocations of life, and at the same time makes us superior to its ills. When cultivated at the fireside, it will be found to add new life and strength to the social affections, to chasten and purify the feelings, and to give life an importance and a purpose which it had not before, and which nothing else can impart.

It is our wish to prove, by our efforts in this department, that pleasures, rational and refined, may be mingled with all the duties of life, and that a literary taste is not incompatible with the labors of the husbandman. We hope to inspire you with a deeper love of home and nature, of truth and beauty, and thus to add something to your happiness. A great philosopher has said that happiness is made up of little things, the infinitesimals of life. If this be so, we trust to point out from time to time, some of these unnoticed things, and bring them home to your hearts and lives.

We ask, then, from you all, a kind reception, and promise in turn, to be as agreeable and entertaining as possible. When the wind blows chill without, draw closer around your firesides, cling closer to those virtues which shine brightest in the home circle and get into close sympathy with some kindred heart. If this pleasure be denied you, seek communion with the minds of the great, study the teachings of Nature, who has, in the coldest winter, her evergreens, rejoicing "with a sturdy look of wholesome content in every bough."

## Professional Education of Farmers.

L. TUCKER, Esq.—I congratulate you, my dear sir, on the advent of your "COUNTRY GENTLEMAN," and for one, desire to extend to him the right-hand of social fellowship. Coming, as he does, with a letter of credit from you, it is presumable that he is, indeed, a real gentleman—a man of education, of good social and moral habits, and a man of business. Although the popular idea conveyed by the term "gentleman," is that of an idle man, a man of leisure, a man that is not obliged to attend to any kind of business for a living, I do not so understand the term, but rather as I have defined it above. But the "country gentleman" is, or ought to be, the perfection, the highest grade of the human family in private life; and, as a general rule, he generally is so. I have mixed much with all classes of society in this country, and can say frankly that I have met with more genuine gentlemen in the country, on farms and plantations, than in cities and towns. I have found but one fault in all my intercourse with country people, that is calculated to degrade them, and that is almost universally prevalent; and so long as it does prevail it must continue to degrade the profession. It is the absence of a proper *esprit du corps*, and in its place, a longing desire for other professions. They "look down" upon their own profession, and *up* to every other. They educate their sons for lawyers, doctors, divines, merchants; and those who cannot be thus

educated, educate *themselves* for farmers, as it happens. Is not this the truth?

Now this must be reformed entirely. Farmers must be ambitious of becoming great farmers instead of great lawyers and doctors; and farmer's sons and daughters must be enabled to see in their father's profession, a station and standing sufficiently exalted to satisfy their highest ambition. But how can this be accomplished? By a proper system of education. At present the great end and aim of education is what is called professional—that is, the student is being educated for a lawyer, &c. Take the catalogues of Yale, of Harvard, or of any of our colleges, and where you will find one student preparing for an agricultural life, you will find five hundred preparing for other professions. If a farmer has two sons, and the one exhibits a modicum of intellectual "smartness," and the other the same amount of dullness, the former is forthwith sent to the law school, the latter to the barn-yard.

Among all that has been written on the subject of education of farmer's sons, I have not seen what I consider the proper idea inculcated. It is true, we are continually furnished with essays recommending the establishment of agricultural schools, colleges, farm schools, &c., but they do not contain the germ from which the future tree must grow. Legislatures must not be looked to, to establish schools. Farmers must establish them themselves. Lawyers and doctors and divines, establish their own schools, and why not farmers? These professions would fare poorly, just as the farmers do, if they were to depend upon the legislatures to establish medical colleges, &c., for them. No, they first put their shoulders to the wheel, and then call upon Hercules. But the great idea, so universally overlooked, is, that the farmers must first appreciate the respectability, the gentility, of their own profession, before they can be induced to take the proper measures to ensure a thorough professional education for their sons. They must cultivate a spirit of respect for themselves and their profession; and consider no other class of men, no other profession superior or more respectable than their own. They should do as other professions do, associate and consult together upon their own professional affairs; establish schools and colleges for the education of the young; and, in fact, do as all other professions do to advance their own interest.

Let us sketch a plan of education, and as a model we will take the medical profession. What does a man do who has a son that he wishes to become a doctor? He selects some good physician, and puts his son with him to study, two or three years. This is to give him a theoretical knowledge of the rudiments. The physician will instruct him as to the books he must read, make him acquainted with the minor practical duties of the profession, and give him opportunities for such practice as may be considered proper. This is an apprenticeship. After a proper length of study in the office, he is sent to the medical college, where he completes his theoretical studies, and has the advantage of the clinical practice in the infirmary or hospital, and at a proper time, after sufficient study, he receives his diploma.

Now, farmers should do the same with those of their sons they intend for farmers. They should instruct them in the principles as well as the practice of their art; they should put books into their hands to be studied; they should, in fact, be carried through a regular apprenticeship. When they have gone through with this preliminary study of

theoretical and practical farming, such as can be given them at home, or with some respectable farmer, they are prepared for the higher school studies. Every county should have at least one high Agricultural School, established and supported by the farmers, both in the science or theory, and practice of agriculture. Until the farmers adopt a system of this sort, it is impossible that they can ever attain to that high professional standing that is enjoyed by other professions.

What, let us ask, is the system at present in vogue? The boy grows up on the farm, and sees as little of the farm-work as he possibly can. No one explains to him the why and because of any operation. If his parents are able, he is sent to some neighboring school, where he learns to read and write, and possibly to "cypher" some; but he learns to envy the condition of the school-master, the clerk in the store, the doctor's students, and the lawyer's young men, and to hate the idea of returning to the work of a plain farmer. Here is the root of the evil, and I do not see how it is to be eradicated, except by a radical change in the school system, and in the minds of the farmers themselves, as to the standing and character of a farmer's profession. If the young be induced to consider the profession of a farmer as dignified and "genteel" as that of any other class, they would not so readily imbibe a dislike for it. This can be accomplished by a proper systematic course of instruction at home, and by schools properly instituted and managed.

As a general rule, every class of people enjoy precisely the character and standing in society that they themselves select. If the members of any profession, as a body, select a high grade of standing, and use the means for attaining it, they must and will occupy it. But if they merely look upon this high grade with an envious eye, and take no measures for securing it to themselves, they will most assuredly never attain to it. There is a very prevalent idea among practical working people, that *other* people look upon them as a degraded class. In all my experience, I have found this idea to have originated with themselves, and that the other classes, without their suggestion, would never have thought of such a thing. Self-respect should induce every man to put a proper estimate upon his own claims to the respect of others, and preclude the idea that any one else *can*, much less *does*, underrate them. G. B. SMITH. Baltimore.

We hope our readers will "read, mark, and inwardly digest," the above remarks. The suggestions are important, and worthy the consideration of all who desire the elevation of agriculture to the rank of a "profession." Eos.

#### The Microscope and Telescope.

When the celebrated Linnæus was one day abroad in the fields with his pupils, he laid his hand upon the green turf, and said he had that under his hand, whose consideration might justly occupy all of them a considerable portion of their lives. He verified this assertion by showing them that within that small space, there were thirty-four different species, either of grass, or moss, or insects, or animalcules, or varieties of minerals. What a wide field for investigation opens in observing the structure, mode of growing, the supply of sap and food, and the affinities of all these different plants; the anatomical structure, habits, and changes of all the insects; and the composition of the minerals, their crystallization, forms, usefulness, and relations to the solid rocks of the

globe. If in the pursuit of these inquiries, the best modern achromatic microscopes were brought into use, the interest would be greatly increased. This powerful instrument would sometimes develop as much to excite wonder and curiosity within not the space of a hand-breadth, but even that of a pin's head, as is usually seen by the casual observer in a broad landscape. Examine that little plant! The fine down or minute hairs on its surface are magnified to huge thorns, like harrow-teeth! Its slender branches, not larger than knitting needles, are found to be made up of thousands of exceedingly small tubes, through which the sap ascends and descends. The body and legs of a flea are found to possess a perfection and finish superior to that of the most perfect locomotive. Lyonnet wrote a large treatise on the structure of a single insect, so complex and complete were its various parts; among which he found about four thousand muscles, or about seven times as many as exists in the human body.

The microscope enables us to descend in the scale of animal existence so far as to find vast multitudes so small as to be entirely invisible to the unassisted eye. A single drop of water has contained a hundred such animalcules, without in the least degree affecting its apparent transparency. All nature is full of these minute animals. Captain Scoresby, in his polar voyages, observed a remarkable green appearance to the ocean, and found on examination that it was caused by innumerable multitudes of animalcules, and that a single cubic foot contained a hundred thousand—a cubic mile twenty thousand trillions—enough to keep a thousand persons counting since the creation.

Works of art—the finest specimens of human skill,—when seen under the most powerful magnifiers, are rude and imperfect. The point of a pin appears blunt, and covered with coarse scratches; the minute chain on the fusee of a watch is rough, and apparently the result of a bungler in the art. The finest muslin is like a coarse splint basket. Not so with the works of creation—these have a perfect finish, so far as human instruments have ever been able to follow them. The wings and legs of the smallest insects, are as smoothly polished as the largest objects; the minute sap-vessels of a plant, appear like the most perfect cut glass. A single dry cornstalk contains millions of cells, the partitions of which have the polish of the finest mica, with the addition of all the colors of the rainbow. This perfection pervades all nature. What a theme for contemplation is the view of a single meadow, consisting, as it does, of countless millions of blades, yet every one made up of myriads of beautiful vessels and tubes, all having the most perfect finish. Every tree is so wonderfully constructed, that the most ingenious man could not manufacture even a single branch or leaf, by the labors of a life-time. How little do we think, then, of all the objects of admiration and beauty, which really exist within the compass of a broad landscape! Yet what is a broad landscape, of ten miles extent, to the whole face of the earth, with its far-stretching forests, its ranges of mighty mountains, its long sweeping rivers and its rolling oceans? A mere pin's point upon the broad map. Yet every portion is filled with microscopic wonders.

How little can we comprehend, with one grasp of the mind, the real size of this "huge rotundity" which we tread! The school-boy flippantly answers that it is eight thousand miles in diameter—twenty-five thousand miles around—but has he any idea of its real bulk—its extent? A cubic

mile of earth, or rock, would appear to him enormous; for it would be fifty thousand times greater than the heaviest canal embankment, ten thousand times exceeding in bulk the great pyramids of Egypt. Yet there are no less than three hundred thousand million cubic miles in the earth—the mere *counting* of which, would have occupied one person since the days of Adam! Now, to conceive this mighty globe whirling over on its axis, at the rate of eighteen miles in a minute, and sweeping ahead in its orbit round the sun at the rate of a thousand miles in a minute,—what an idea does this convey of the power which first launched it forth—what an impression of the infinite number of conceptions of this creative intelligence is afforded by a contemplation of the myriads of organized and animated tribes on its surface, and of the infinitely varying beauties afforded by its skies and landscapes, its rain-bows and dew-drops, its placid lakes and rolling oceans, its quiet valleys and frowning mountains, its delicate flowers and blackening forests, its gloomy tempests and crimson sunsets, and the ever-varying aspects of day and night, and of the circling of the seasons.

When we perceive that the sun and moon appear the same in size from all parts of the earth, we know that their distance must be great—when we see the moon cast its shadow over the whole of the United States, as occurs when the sun is eclipsed, we know something of the moon's size from the extent of this shadow. There are also other ways in which the size and distance of the moon, sun, and planets are determined with great accuracy. When we hear that the moon is one-fourth of a million of miles from us, the sun ninety-five millions; and Le Verrier,\* the most remote planet, three thousand million miles, we have no conception whatever of these distances. We may arrive at a better idea, by calculations of the time required to travel them. The "lightning train" of cars, which runs from New-York to Buffalo by daylight, would, by running day and night, pass the diameter of the earth in ten days; it would travel the distance to the moon in ten months; in three years it would cross the face of the sun; it would require three hundred years—a period as far back as the days of Edward VI. of England, to the present time—for this swift train to reach the sun. But how shall we convey a conception of the enormous distance to the outer bounds of the solar system? Light flies with such velocity as to travel from the moon to the earth in about one second of time—from the sun to the earth, it would require seven minutes—from the sun to Le Verrier, four hours. If the dove, which returned no more to Noah, had then been sent with its utmost speed to the farthest planet, it would still be on its journey; after towering for forty successive centuries through the heights of space, it would yet scarcely have reached the middle of its destined way.

Yet far, far beyond the planetary system—until our blazing sun, from that remote distance, would become but as a twinkling lamp—is the nearest of fixed stars. [We shall resume this subject in our next.] T.

\* The more frequent name is *Neptune*, but it seems a matter of regret that the enlightened Christians must go back to the dark and disgusting heathen mythology for the names of celestial bodies.

We should take a prudent care for the future, but so as to enjoy the present. It is no part of wisdom to be miserable to-day, because we may happen to be so to-morrow.

## Revolutionary Reminiscences.

BEVERLY, RESIDENCE OF THOS. B. ARDEN, ESQ.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—I was much pleased with the plan of "THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN," which you were kind enough to send me, and as I find a portion of the paper is to be devoted to "THE FIRESIDE," under which is included notes, historical, biographical, &c. I thought a few notes of a ride I took to Beverly, a short time since, might not be devoid of interest to some of your readers.

There are several roads leading from my residence to Beverly, but unfortunately the choice is somewhat difficult, for go whichever way you will, a mountain must be crossed. After debating the point a few moments, we concluded to take the road over *Gallows Hill*—an ominous name, truly, but you know we are of classic memory here; and this same Gallows Hill derived its name from a gallows which was erected upon it during the revolutionary war, whereon a man by the name of John Strang was hung.

The beautiful tints of the autumn had faded, and the showers of leaves that fell thick and fast around us, told that the stern monarch Winter would, ere long, come to claim his reign.

A few moments' drive brought us to the Westchester county line. Rising an eminence a mile or so from home, we saw lying beneath us, a little to the south, the beautiful Lake Mohegan, with its silver waters. Descending the hill and rising again to the top of another, brought us in full view of the noble Hudson, so hemmed in by mountains as to give it a lake-like appearance, while the white sails of the various crafts, and the trim steamer, as she glided over the glassy waters, rendered the scene highly picturesque. For some miles we skirted the Westchester county line. Less than an hour's drive brought us to an old church, built prior to the revolution, and which, with one in the highlands, a mile and a half from Beverly, composed one parish. During the struggle of the revolution, this church was used as a barracks, and aided in sheltering our patriot fathers from the rude storm of the winter's night. A burial yard is attached to it, and among the many stones that rise to commemorate the dead, is a white marble monument, enclosed by an iron railing; beneath it lie the mortal remains of JOHN PAULDING, the patriot, who, with VAN WERT and WILLIAMS, captured ANDRE, near Tarrytown. The monument was erected to the memory of PAULDING, by the corporation of the city of New-York, many years ago.

Soon after passing the church and burying ground, we took the road known as the old Highland Turnpike, and were soon climbing Gallows Hill. This hill is about a mile from its base to its summit, and unlike most of the hills and mountains in this section, seems to be composed of a slate instead of a granite formation. After reaching the top of the hill, a very pretty country lies before you for a mile or two, but the mountains on every side bound the view, and render it limited.

Hill and valley marked our progress, till suddenly, as is often the case in mountain lands, one of the finest views in the State bursts upon us. Before us, and within half a mile, rolled the Hudson. On the western shore lay West Point, with its numerous buildings—in the back ground was Fort Putnam—above rose old Crow Nest. On the eastern shore lay Constitution Island, and further on were the Fishkill Mountains, while in the far

distance, towering over all, rose the magnificent Catskills, their majestic height rendered more conspicuous by a comparison with the lofty hills over which they towered. A few moments' drive now brought us to the entrance gate leading to Mr. ARDEN's residence. Riding along a pretty avenue a short distance, we passed Ardenia, the residence of Mr. RICHARD ARDEN. Continuing along the avenue some quarter of a mile farther, Beverly opened to our view. Within some few hundred yards of the base of the mountain, known by the name of Sugar Loaf, (which name is derived from its remarkably conical appearance,) and immediately opposite to Fort Montgomery and Butter-milk Falls, is the house known as Beverly, or the Robinson House. Its situation is truly romantic, yet not more so than its history, and the classic memories which enshroud it, and to which we shall presently advert.

As you approach Beverly, every thing about it shows that studious care has been taken to preserve the revolutionary memories connected therewith. The house, though in good repair, having never been suffered to decay, is Beverly still. On one part, the old white wood siding still remains nailed to the oak joists and beams, with wrought nails, every nail hole for which must have been bored first with a gimlet. Inside the house, the low ceilings, and heavy and uncovered joists, bear striking contrast with the high ceilings and light timbers of our modern architecture. To one looking with the eye of an architect of the nineteenth century, and accustomed to view the princely palaces of the wealthy of this age, there might not, perhaps, be anything remarkable in this building; but going back a full century to the early settlement of this part of our country; taking into consideration all the disadvantages which the builder must have had to contend with, we see at once, by the large window glass, the polished tiles around the fire-places, the ample rooms, and the style of finish throughout, that its owner was no mean personage.

The house was built by BEVERLY ROBINSON, Esq., about the year 1750. He occupied it with his family, living in peacefulness and ease, and generously sharing the comforts of his home with many friends, until the rupture of what was then the colonies, with the mother country. Summoned to join the standard of that army to which he had formerly belonged, the army of his native country, he tardily obeyed, for he had resigned his commission and sought retirement, no longer wishing to join in the strife of battle. But after twenty years of rural life, he found himself, in a measure, compelled to abandon home and fireside,—a home and fireside, alas, to which he never returned! He saw his home pass into the hands of others, and some of those who had shared his generous hospitality as friends, now occupied it as enemies. Such is the life of the soldier—such are the fortunes of war.

We could not but feel, as we wandered from room to room, that we were treading on hallowed ground. Here WASHINGTON, KNOX, PUTNAM, HAMILTON, KOSCIUSKO and LAFAYETTE, had been. Here some of them had counselled together, and laid plans for the freedom of the colonies; and here, too, did ARNOLD plot the dark perfidy, that has so completely thrown in the shade those deeds of gallant daring, which were the glory of his early day.

We cannot now recapitulate all the historical facts which are blended with Beverly. We cannot speak in detail of the escape of Arnold, of the

discovery of his treason, and the communication of it to Washington by Gen. Hamilton, just after he had escaped to the Vulture; but with what vivid light do they force themselves upon the mind, as the very scene where it all occurred lies before you. Yes, you stand at Beverly, and fancy you see Arnold flying in haste, not by the main road, for there he would have met Washington, but by a path known now by the name of the Arnold path; and as you gaze again, you fancy you see Washington and his suit coming up the mountain road from Beverly Dock, and here Hamilton with anxious look meets them and communicates the heart-rending intelligence of Arnold's faithlessness.

There is one room in the Beverly house, which is well identified as Mrs. Arnold's room. It was to this room that Arnold rushed up the broad stairway, and communicated in haste to his wife the discovery of his treason. It was here that he left her and fled, while she yet lay senseless, horror-struck at the awful disclosure; for until that sad moment she knew nothing of the facts.

Alas! what sad anguish of heart among many, can the misconduct of one being make, and what sad changes can a few moments bring about. History has told what followed these scenes at Beverly. We cannot dwell upon them here; but as the past is the key to the present, and to what will be the future, we would that all men should ponder it deeply in their hearts. We would have the men of this age go back often in spirit to the days of '76—not merely to learn of battles fought and victories won, but to learn why they were fought, and the self-sacrificing spirit through which they were won. We cannot but feel sometimes that the present age is too utilitarian, and that it is laying too ruthless a hand upon the past, and we rejoice when it is our privilege to wander through such scenes as those at Beverly.

To Mr. ARDEN and his father, much praise is due, in these days of modernizing and improving everything, for the studious care with which they have guarded the sacred mementoes that cluster around this altar of the revolution. Few and far between, are those altars now becoming, and unless guarded more sacredly than they have been, soon will they perish one by one, beneath the hand of time and utility.

Am I asked why I would guard them—keep them—preserve them? I answer, a house like that of Beverly, is worth a hundred monuments of marble, to commemorate the illustrious dead. They are well indeed, when nothing more touching can be found. Upon a monumental stone, we read the deeds of self-sacrifice, of virtue, of heroism, that once belonged to those now dead and cold, but that monument stands dead, cold, lifeless as the clay that lies beneath it. Picture what it will, it tells but of the one great, mighty dead.

But go to the home, the fireside of the departed ones—wander through the now silent chambers, and immediately they become peopled with the men and things of other days. First and prominent is he who your marble monument would commemorate, but he is not dead—he moves there amid relatives and friends. You see him in the full tide of life, guiding with his wisdom, animating by his example. Yes! where is the man who would barter the home of Washington, Mount Vernon, for the loftiest monument the hand of man could rear. And Beverly, too, is it not a monument—a living monument, to Washington, to Lafayette, to Kosciusko, to Hamilton, and a hundred others? Let us strive, then, to preserve such holy mementoes—let them be shrines set

apart, to which a grateful nation may make pilgrimages. The memory of the scenes enacted there, will teach us to lay a just estimate upon the rich inheritance that has been left us by the noble band of the revolution of 76. H. C. W. Putnam Valley, Dec. 28, 1852.

George Renick, Sr.

I do not propose to give an extended biography of the individual whose name heads this article, nor to narrate many of the incidents of his life. My only object is to speak of one or two of his prominent acts, which will suffice to show that a plain, unassuming, unambitious farmer, may confer great benefit on his country. There is nothing grandiloquent in a farmer's life. On the contrary, how calm the inception, how gradual the expansion of the cultivator's designs! For him there is no sudden realization of hopes. In silent thoughtfulness he prepares the ground—in his mind deep plowing and careful harrowing produce fruitfulness. From the budding to the ripening of his mental growth, his mind goes straight onward to its conclusion. But on account of this slowness of development, this leaning on and learning from Nature, he has sometimes been called a dull plodding drudge.

To the young husbandman just setting out in life, I might say, behold in GEORGE RENICK your model. Learn from him that a fruitful intellect may dwell with modesty and merit. And if you would be riveted in attachment to the noblest and most ancient of avocations, be assured from his history, that content and plenty will ever be the reward of him who assiduously cultivates both the soil and the mind. Such a farmer is above and beyond the feverish itchings for fame and notoriety.

In the winter of 1804-5, before turnpikes and canals afforded an outlet for the vast grain surplus of the rich bottoms and plains of the West, the prospects of the farmer were gloomy and unpromising in the extreme. Hogs roamed at large, and fattened without the care or solicitude of their owners, on the superabundant waste of the forest. The small villages of the thinly settled country, could scarcely consume the beef which one good farm was able to supply. And if every log cabin in the country had been a distillery, and every man, woman and child, had drank their own home made whiskey like mother's milk, they could not have consumed the products of their groaning corn fields. The nominal value of that bane or blessing of man, as it happened to be in a liquid or solid state, varied from ten to six cents per bushel. At this juncture Mr. Renick determined to make an experiment, which his friends and relations deemed little better than burning his corn in the field.

Unmoved, however, by their doubts, he fed a lot of cattle, and started them on an untried road, to a market beyond the mountains. How long it would take, or how they were to be fed on the way, or in what condition they would reach their destination, no man knew. As the first fifty cattle ever fed on the Scioto, or in the great valley of the Mississippi, were turned out of their pasture, one of his commiserating friends shook his head, and said, "There goes poor George's forlorn hope." Forlorn hope it was, but a glorious victory perched upon its banner. The undertaking seemed desperate, but was eminently successful. To make his triumph the more complete, his trial was the more severe. When they reached Baltimore, he was no longer surrounded by friends who

spoke their fears in whispers. To the inexperienced eye, the cattle were sore, hollow and poor. No one would buy. The butchers scouted his offers to sell, even at reduced prices.

With that patient and quiet courage which has ever marked the man, Mr. Renick ordered two or three of the most indifferent of the cattle to be slaughtered, at his own expense, and the butcher was directed to give the meat to his customers, if he could not sell it, at his stall. A fact was made known, and a valuable lesson was taught to the butcher and consumer. That meat was "the best for its looks they ever saw." The lot was sold; another and another followed. Now, all is plain and easy. "Any one could have done that." So thought and said thousands who have followed Columbus to the New World. Nor was there any mystery in making the egg stand up, after the great discoverer had showed them how to crush the end. The "forlorn hope" was the pioneer band to hundreds of thousands of fat cattle, which have gone from the Great West to the markets of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New-York and Boston, and to be shipped from their ports to the far distant isles of the ocean. It has been computed, that not less than twenty thousand fat cattle, per annum, cross the Scioto river, between the town of Piketon and the mouth of Darby. North and south of those points, the numbers, eastward bound, have not been included in the reckoning. Has not Mr. Renick opened a mine of wealth to the feeders and farmers of the whole western world, and at the same time secured to our eastern brethren a constant supply of a great necessary of life?

This was not the only useful and striking example of that amiable and virtuous citizen. About thirty years after he had shown his brother farmers how to get their corn to market, after he had practically demonstrated that thousands of cattle, and countless thousands of hogs, could be fattened and driven where there was the greatest demand for them, he presented to the agricultural society of this county a certificate, signed by gentlemen of the highest character for veracity, that he had produced 154 bush. of corn on an acre of ground. I know that this achievement has been since equalled and surpassed, but I mention it here, because it was the first time, I believe, that the well attested proof of so large a yield had ever been made public, and because this wonderful product was upon the very ground on which, so long a time previous, he had fed his "forlorn hope."

The Hon. John L. Taylor states, in his communication to the Plough, the Loom and the Anvil, that on the 2d Nov., 1833, Gov. Allen Trimble, George Renick, and Gen. Duncan McArthur, with others, formed the "Ohio Company for Importing English Cattle." Now, sir, believing that none of the gentlemen engaged in that noble enterprise, will be lessened in public esteem by my doing so, I will state the facts and circumstances which called that company into being. On that day the gentlemen just mentioned had been examining a lot of Kentucky Durhams, descendants of the importation of 1817, when Mr. Renick asked his companions, why they could not form a company, and send on to England and bring out a lot of improved Durhams for themselves? He said, truly, "We know nothing of the purity of this stock; the pedigrees may or may not be made up for the occasion." The suggestion was approved, and that very day the articles of association, forming the first Ohio Importing Company, were signed. What has been the result? Ask all who have attended our valley or State fairs. Not only has

there been no deterioration, but in the opinion of one of the best judges in America, Dr. Arthur Watts, "he saw nothing superior to them in all Great Britain," when he was examining their stock as agent of the third and last company, formed in 1852. In some respects, as I understand from him, the pure descendants of the first and second importations, are ahead of any thing he saw on the Empire Island. In every effort to improve our cattle, Mr. Renick has taken a leading part. There is an old adage, "Let honor be rendered to whom honor is due." It would give me unfeigned pleasure to see this rule applied, justly and fully, to him. I think it would have a wholesome, an encouraging effect, upon the rising agricultural generation. There is no society, State or National, which would not do honor to itself by passing the highest encomiums, or offering the highest rewards, for actions and services which have been of such general and unrestricted good. The experiment can never be repeated, but the effect is for all time. His peaceful and quiet home needs no music from the trumpet of fame to make it more happy; but if that class which he represents, wishes to attain and maintain the first position in society, let them acknowledge and appreciate his good example. If I shall have caused, by this communication, the young *sons of the soil* to esteem and value the character of the modest and amiable old South Branch Patriarch, GEORGE RENICK, of Ross county, Ohio, I shall be amply compensated. W. MARSHALL ANDERSON. Chillicothe, Dec. 9, 1852.

Entomology.

THE PIGEON HOLE BORER.—*Tremex Columba*.

MR. TUCKER—A few years since, on visiting the garden attached to one of the public buildings of our city, I had occasion to remark the withered and dying condition of a beautiful maple, which for a long period of time had been the pride and ornament of the place; and many were the conjectures among individuals in the vicinity, respecting the cause of its premature death and decay. During the month of August of the succeeding year, when I again visited the spot, the branches had all been broken from the tree, and the bole, to the height of about eight feet from the ground, alone remained, and this was partially denuded of its bark. On the surfaces of these bare and exposed parts were to be seen, promiscuously scattered about, a considerable number of circular holes, averaging about the size of an ordinary goose quill, some of which had their orifices still closed up by the raspings of the wood through which these perforations had been made. Upon splitting off several portions of the trunk, and exposing the internal structure to the sight, it exhibited an immense number of ramifying channels or grooves, diverging in every direction through the wood, and directly communicating with the many openings on the surface of the tree. On a closer inspection, most of these channels were discovered to contain beautiful specimens of a species of Hymenopterous insect in all its various stages of existence, from the ova up to the imago, or perfect state; many of the larva obtained from the center of the tree were observed to be mutilated and dead, exhibiting evident indications, that their destruction had been accomplished by the aid of some parasitical, or egg-depositing insect; the internal portions of what remained having afforded to these predators, a sufficient nourishment, until they became ready to emerge in a perfect form, to the open light of day. Those that were

procured from near the orifices that still remained closed, were all in either a chrysalis or perfect state, the former being enclosed in a membranous, soft, and translucent case or covering, through which the entire form and proportions of the insect could with ease be distinguished. On submitting the perfect insect to an examination, I had little difficulty in determining it to be the one here figured, the *Tremex Columba*, (Pigeon hole-borer) of Say.



From various circumstances, I am inclined to believe that the natural habit of this insect is, to deposit the eggs within the bark near the base of the tree; if so, to white-wash the trunk for six or eight feet from the ground, or give it a copious washing with some of the various materials so strongly recommended by many different authors, and ordinarily made use of for the purpose, together with destroying the female whenever met with, or thrusting a red hot wire into the orifices, and thus causing the larvæ to perish, may, in all probability, effectually protect the trees from any of their future depredations. These grubs are frequently destroyed by the larva of the *Pimpla lunator*, the egg of which, having been deposited in their bodies, while committing their depredations in the heart of the tree.

*Tremex Columba* is embraced in the second tribe of *Hymenoptera*, and belongs to the family *Uroceridae*, or horn-tails, so termed in consequence of being furnished with horny points at the extremity of the abdomen. The body of the female is cylindrical, and about as thick as an ordinary lead-pencil, being an inch and a half or more in length, exclusive of the ovipositor, which is an inch long, projecting three-eighths of an inch beyond the extremity of the body. This latter, rounds upwards, like the stem of a boat, and is armed with a pointed or sharp horn. The head and thorax are of a rust color, variegated with black. The abdomen is black, with seven ochre-yellow bands across the back, all of which, with the exception of the first two, are interrupted in the middle. The borer, and a round spot at its base, impressed as if with a seal, are of an ochre-yellow color. The antennæ are rather short and blunt, of a rust color, and with a broad black ring in the middle. The wings, when expanded, are two inches and a quarter or more in extent, smoky brown, and translucent. The legs are of an ochre-yellow, with blackish thighs. The ovipositor is of an awl or needle form, and about the thickness of a bristle, with a spear-pointed termination, and black in color; when not in use it is concealed between two narrow side-pieces, which furnish to it a species of scabbard or sheath.

The male is not furnished with a borer, and is extremely unlike the female, in color, form, and size. The color is that of rust, variegated with black, with the antennæ of a dark rusty yellow. The wings are of a smoky tinge, but much clearer than those of the female. The abdomen is rather enlarged behind, somewhat flattened, and terminates with a conical horn. The hind legs are much wider than those of the female, flattened, and of a blackish color; the remaining ones are of a rust color, more or less shaded with black. The body varies from three quarters of an inch to one and a quarter in length; and the expansion of wings, from one and a quarter to two or more inches. The larva is of a cylindrical shape and of a yellowish white color, with a rounded termination and a horny point on the upper portion of its extremity. It is an inch and a half in length.

In the months of July and August, these insects may not unfrequently be met with in some considerable numbers, the females employed in depositing the eggs in the wood of the trees on

which their larvæ feeds; and the males, hovering leisurely about, as if for the purpose of inspecting the progress of the operation. This is accomplished by the female in the following way: After selecting the desired spot, she elevates the abdomen, and curves its extremity in such a manner as to bring the ovipositor in a perpendicular position directly beneath its center, then by a series of wriggling motions, plunges it about the distance of an inch and a half, or more, through the bark, into the solid wood, and in this orifice plants a single egg. The larva, on being hatched, gnaws its way into the heart of the tree, for some six or more inches in depth, and there remains securely, committing its depredations, until the period arrives for its change into the chrysalis state, and in no great length of time after, to emerge into its perfect form, again fully prepared to renew the process of regeneration. JAMES EIGHTS. Albany, Dec. 1, 1852.

#### Literary Notices.

WOMAN'S RECORD, OR SKETCHES OF ALL DISTINGUISHED WOMEN, from the beginning till A. D. 1850, with selections from female writers of every age, by SARAH JOSEPHA HALE. Harper & Brothers, New-York.—This volume, consisting of 900 pages, and illustrated by 230 portraits, engraved by LOSSING & BARRITT, containing the finest specimens of female composition which have ever been produced, and elegantly bound, will be the most popular work of the season. The authoress, who is not without her claims to literary reputation, has shown decided good taste in her selections, and drawn her characters impartially and well. The book will form an excellent guide for those who are desirous to know something of the women who have made a mark on their age, and prompt to more extensive reading. The effect of thorough female education is clearly visible in the increase of writers in that sex, and it is not to be denied that some of the choicest literature of the day, is from the pens of women. The authoress, in some closing remarks, condemns the spirit of Womans' Rights' Conventions in very just and appropriate language.

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF DANIEL WEBSTER, by CHAS. LANMAN. Harper & Brothers.—This neat volume, appearing as it does, before the grief for this distinguished man has merged itself in some new absorbing topic, will have a great run. It would appear that much of his private life was as touchingly beautiful, as full of kind thoughts and generous actions, as his public life was eminent and useful. This book contains a portrait and profile sketch of Mr. Webster, together with wood engravings of his birth-place and residence at Marshfield. It is written in a pleasing, unpretending style, aiming simply at truthfulness.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE. GEO. R. GRAHAM, Philadelphia.—The January No. has been received. In the beauty of its illustrations, the style of its execution, and in its contents, it is unsurpassed by its contemporary fashionable magazines. Indeed, we question whether it does not rank above them altogether, and should not in justice be classed with the best literary periodicals.

LOSSING'S PICTORIAL FIELD BOOK OF THE REVOLUTION—is now completed. It is finely illustrated, and full of choice and interesting matter. Those who have received the numbers as issued, do not need to be assured of their value, but those who have not, will do well to buy the book.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE. Published by LEONARD SCOTT & CO., New-York.—This is one of the best English literary magazines, and its scope embraces a wide range of subjects. Its original disquisitions are of a high order, and its articles on literature, biography, narratives, historical and fictitious, are always written in the best style. It is the organ of some of the most distinguished English authors, and en-

joys an enviable reputation, and a large circulation both in Great Britain and in this country. Its price is now only \$3 a year, and the postage only 24 cents a year. Leonard Scott & Co. also republish the Edinburgh Review, the London Quarterly Review, the Westminster Review, and the North British Review, at \$3 each, or the four, with Blackwood, at \$10.

THE HOME JOURNAL, published weekly at New-York. GEO. P. MORRIS and N. PARKER WILLIS, Editors, at two dollars a year, in advance.—This paper is among the best of our family literary journals. The gentlemen who have the charge of it are connoisseurs in matters of taste, and every number shows that the nicest discrimination has been used in the selection, revision and composing of the subject matter. Special efforts are to be made to improve the paper the coming year, and we doubt not it will receive the support it merits.

LITTLE SILVERSTRING, or Tales and Poems for the Young, by WM. OLAND BOURNE. Published by CHAS. SCRIBNER, New York.—This finely illustrated volume, is an appropriate present for children at the Holidays. It is written in a simple, tasteful style; abounds in instruction and entertainment, and has a vein of moral sentiment running through the whole. The book was evidently written for the purpose of teaching truth and principle, and the author's felicitous manner of expression enables him to do this effectually, while at the same time it will win him many friends in the young hearts that dwell upon his words.

BIANCA, A TALE OF ERIN AND ITALY, by EDWARD MATURIN, Esq. Harper & Brothers.—This is an autobiography of some merit. The earnestness and sincerity of the Irish character, when cultivated, and the impulsiveness and passion of the refined Italian female Bianca, are shown, sometimes in contrast, and sometimes blending in sympathy. The style and general effect of the work is pleasing.

#### Monument to Mr. Downing.

It will be seen by the annexed notice, that the Committee appointed at the late meeting of the American Pomological Society, at Philadelphia, have organised, and are prepared to receive subscriptions for the purpose of carrying into effect the duties assigned them. No man was more worthy of such a testimonial, and we doubt not the sum necessary will soon be raised—for who, among all those who have read his works, and appreciated their influence upon the rural improvement of our country, will withhold his aid to a project so creditable to the living and the dead.

The undersigned were appointed a Committee by the American Pomological Society, at its late meeting in Philadelphia, (with power to add to their number,) to solicit from individuals, subscriptions, each of one dollar or upwards, to procure such testimonial as the Committee may deem suitable and expedient, in memory of the lamented ANDREW JACKSON DOWNING.

His private virtues, his great worth and important services in Horticulture, Rural Architecture, and the various branches of terra-culture, and his numerous and valuable publications, justly entitle him to this distinction.

In discharge of the duty imposed upon us, we transmit to you this Circular, and earnestly request your prompt co-operation in fulfillment of this benevolent design.

Associations as well as individuals who may receive this Circular, are requested to transmit, by mail or otherwise, their contributions to either of the subscribers, who will register their names, residence and subscription.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, Boston.

ROBERT BUIST, Philadelphia.

CALEB COPE, Philadelphia.

H. W. S. CLEVELAND, Burlington N. J.

BENJAMIN HODGE, Buffalo, N. Y.

F. R. ELLIOTT, Cleveland, Ohio.

LAW'NCE YOUNG, Springdale, near Louisville, Ky.

W. H. BRECKENRIDGE, Washington, D. C.

JOHN A. KENNICOTT, Northfield, Illinois.

The several Vice Presidents of the American Pomological Society, and the Chairmen of the various State Fruit Committees, are hereby constituted members of the above Committee, with authority to appoint associates in their respective States and Territories.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, Chairman.

## Record of the Times.

As this number is issued two weeks in advance of its date, news for the week ending Dec. 21 will be found in this department.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

ENGLAND.—The mail steamship Africa arrived at New-York on Friday, the 17th of Dec., bringing news up to the 4th of Dec. The financial statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is the leading news of the week. This statement has been expected with interest, as it was supposed that it would embody views peculiar to D'Israeli, and perhaps result in some rupture in the ministry.

The following are some of the details in the Budget. It recommends that shipping be relieved from taxations which subject it to burdens, and hinder its prosperity. The light tolls and passing duties, are serious hindrances, and government proposes to confine payment by ship, to benefits which it receives from lights, and to relieve it from passing tolls. It recommends that the system of salvage entirely cease. Important changes in the Manning of the navy and merchant service are to be proposed. The government does not favor any change of the duties on sugar, for the reason that the production of sugar by the British plantations is increasing, while foreign importation is diminishing.

With regard to measures affecting the agricultural interest, the introduction of highway rates is proposed, but no change in county rates or local taxes. Under the new system it is the policy of government to put an end to high taxes. You best enable the community to bear unrestricted competition by cheapening those articles which sustain them, and he should show the House, if they adopted the principle fully, they would be giving the greatest possible impulse to the industry of the country. He therefore, recommends the reduction of malt duties one-half,—tea duties to be reduced 4 1-2d. the first year, and five following years, 2d., till the duty reached one shilling—hop duties reduced one-half. He proposed to extend the property and income tax to Ireland. On account of these reductions, it would be necessary to raise the estimates for the army and navy £600,000. This amount must be raised in some way by direct taxation.

The chancellor sat down amid loud cheers from all parts of the House.

FREE TRADE.—A resolution embodying the principles of free trade, was presented to the House of Lords on the 2d inst. It was expected that the House would adopt it without debate.

WORLD'S FAIR OF 1851.—The second report of the commissioners has just been issued, from which it appears that they have purchased the Gore House estate, at Kensington, facing Hyde Park, 21 1-2 acres, for £69,000, and 48 acres adjoining at £153,500, with the understanding that the government will contribute a like sum for the purpose of erecting some institution of a national character. A new national gallery, and a museum of art, are among the buildings contemplated.

MARKETS.—The English markets are firm and advancing for flour and grain, and cotton has revived in price and demand.

DEATH OF LADY LOVELACE.—The Lady Ada Augusta, Byron's only daughter, is recently dead, after an illness of more than a year, aged 37. The London Globe, speaking of her death, says: "Much of the interest which attaches to the daughters of Milton and Shakespeare was felt in the deceased lady wherever the English language is spoken, and to a large circle of private friends her death will be a source of sincere sorrow. Highly gifted, and endowed with a large share of her father's vivid temperament, she delighted in intellectual as well as benevolent and kindly pursuits—one of her most intimate and prized confidants having been for many years that intelligent judge of female excellence, Mrs. Jameson. To that lady's pen we should refer the public for a true appreciation of her character."

FRANCE is an empire once more. On the 1st of Dec. the Corps Legislatif met to sum up the votes for the empire. The result was,

Yes, .....	7,864,189
No, .....	253,145
Null, .....	63,326

Maj. for LOUIS NAPOLEON, Emperor, 7,547,718

On the following day Napoleon made his public entry, as Emperor, into Paris. The president of the legislative corps, M. BILLAULT, upon presenting Napoleon with the number of votes, made a brief speech. The following extract will show the spirit of the speech: "Sire, we lay before your Majesty the solemn expression of the national will. Your wish is accomplished; a free ballot, secret and open to all, has been honestly examined under the eyes of all, summing up 8,000,000 of votes. It gives to the legitimacy of your government the widest basis on which any government in the world has ever been established. France has marked, by additional millions of votes, her increased confidence in you."

After alluding to the enthusiasm in his favor, to the recollections of military glory, which are the pride of the

nation, and the high expectations which France cherished for this new government, he said, "Take, then, Sire, from the hands of France, that glorious crown which she offers you; never has a royal brow worn one more legitimate and popular."

The Emperor modestly did take the crown, and humbly spoke of the gratitude which reigned in his heart; of the will of the people which individuals should not disregard. He claims to recognise all preceding governments, and announces his aim to be to establish a "stable government, which shall have for its basis religion, probity, and love." At the close of his remarks he says, "for the suffering classes receive here my oath that no sacrifice shall be wanting on my part to ensure the prosperity of my country, and while I maintain peace, I will yield in nothing which may touch the honor or dignity of France."

Great fetes are to be given on the coronation. The Empire was to be proclaimed in all the departments in a few days. The imperial crown was ordered some time since, and is nearly ready. A casket of jewels is also preparing for the future Empress.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

The second session of the Thirty-second Congress organized Monday, Dec. 6, and after transacting the usual introductory business, listened to the President's Message, an abstract of which is given.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—In commencing, the President alludes to the general absence of extraordinary political events, and the comparative quiet which has marked the recent election, and then touches upon the death of Daniel Webster in appropriate terms. The Fishery question is the next topic. A difference still remains with regard to the interpretation of the treaty of 1818. Movements are to be made for a re-adjustment of the entire subject, upon mutually acceptable terms. Cuba comes next under consideration. The President thinks that Cuba has trespassed somewhat, but will give satisfaction in course of time. The ministers of France and England have requested the United States to enter into a formal agreement to disclaim all intentions of obtaining Cuba in any way. The offer has been declined, but the President thinks the incorporation of Cuba at present a measure of doubtful propriety. After some allusion to conventional difficulties with Mexico, and treaties with Rio Janeiro and Uruguay, he discusses briefly the Lobos Islands question, in which remarks he compliments Peru, and confesses to an unintentional injury on the part of the United States. He suggests some division of the labors of the Department of State, and that fire-proof buildings be erected for the archives of the several departments. He refers to his former arguments in favor of a protective tariff, and adduces others in support of his position. He favors specific instead of *ad valorem* duties, as a preventive to dishonesty on the part of custom-house officers. He makes suggestions with regard to appropriations of land to the Indians, and proposes the publication and distribution by the Patent Office of a digest of all useful inventions. Subjects of national policy and internal improvement are made topics of remark, including suggestions for the reorganization of the Military Academy at West Point, on a new basis, and the punishment of those in the employ of the Government who accept bribes, as well as those who offer them. In opposition to the radical notions proclaimed by Kossuth, on the subject of interference in foreign matters, he defends the constitutionality and propriety of maintaining a neutral position, alluding to the many precedents which the history of our country has afforded for so doing. The American must rejoice at the extension of freedom, and sympathise deeply with the oppressed, but wisdom and prudence dictate that arms should not be used to establish republics on the ruins of monarchies. Free institutions are not necessarily the offspring of revolutions. Each nation should govern itself, and it is our province only to set an example of national justice and prosperity. He regrets that when we are so prosperous, our people so well educated, our soil so fertile, an excess of enterprise should lead ambitious persons to plot mercenary expeditions, under pretense of extending the area of freedom, and thus blast the fair fame of our country. In closing he alludes to the quiet and calm that have characterised his administration, all of which he ascribes to the Constitution and the blessing of Heaven.

As a whole the message is marked by the same prudence and good sense that have distinguished the administration of PRESIDENT FILLMORE.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.—The vessels of the navy now in commission are divided into six squadrons, one each being assigned to the East Indies, the Pacific, the African coast, the Brazilian coast, the Mediterranean, and the coast of the United States. The commander of the East India squadron has in charge the opening of Japan—a matter of much interest to owners of whale ships, and voyagers between China and California. An expedition for the exploration and survey of the China Seas, the Northern Pacific and Behring's Straits, is prepared and will sail soon. An expedition for the survey of a portion of Africa, east of Liberia, is also on foot. The Secretary of the Navy suggests an increase of the naval force, and submits a plan for the entire remodeling of the system of government on ship board.

THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.—The report of the

Postmaster General states that the whole number of post offices in the United States, was, at the close of the fiscal year, ending June 30, 20,910—up to Nov. 1, 526 have been added, making in all, 21,191. The number of miles of post office route in the United States is 214,284. The gross receipts of the Department for the last fiscal year, were \$6,925,971.25; the expenditures were \$7,108,459.04. The receipts are \$1,388,334.43 less than last year. This diminution is greater than was expected, but there seems to be no disposition to return to higher rates. The report contains much interesting information with regard to foreign postal arrangements, which we have not space to copy.

LAND OFFICE REPORT.—It appears by the report that 9,522,953 acres of public land have been surveyed the past year. The total of lands sold is 4,870,067 acres. The report of Dr. D. D. Owen, on the Geology of Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and the "Bad lands of Nebraska," is now being printed, and will be a valuable contribution to the scientific literature of the country.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—The report of the Secretary is brief, and shows that the efforts of the Department have been directed chiefly to the defence of our frontiers from the Indian tribes within our borders. It is a startling fact, that eight of ten thousand of the officers and men on the army rolls, should be employed to keep the aboriginal inhabitants of the country at bay.

THE PENSION OFFICE REPORT.—The whole number of pensions in the United States is 18,868—743 less than one year ago. The amount expended on account of pensions the last year is \$1,500,000. The usual quantum of fraud is said to have been practiced.

THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT.—The report speaks in encouraging terms of the condition of the Indian tribes in the north and west. Agriculture is becoming a more general pursuit, but the fact of gradual diminution is becoming every year more evident.

DEBATE IN CONGRESS.—The Senate has been engaged in a novel and interesting debate with regard to the seat of a Kentucky Senator. Mr. Clay had tendered his resignation, to take effect after 1st of September. The legislature of Kentucky appointed Mr. Dixon to fill the balance of the term after Sept. 1. During the month of June Mr. Clay died, and the governor of Kentucky named Mr. Merriweather to the vacancy till the 1st of September. Mr. Merriweather does not claim a seat, and Mr. Dixon has appeared with the proper credentials. Notwithstanding the democratic members of the Senate were determined to force Mr. Merriweather, who is of that party, to be of their number. Parliamentary rules and precedents were insisted upon by the opposing party, and Mr. Dixon holds his seat.

DANIEL WEBSTER.—On Tuesday, Dec. 14, after the several topics in the President's Message had been referred to committees, Mr. Davis, of Mass., called the attention of the Senate to that part of the message relating to the death of Daniel Webster, and made some touching and appropriate remarks on the character, ability, and worth of the deceased. He then proposed a resolution to the effect "that the Senate has received with profound sensibility, the announcement by the President of the death of Daniel Webster, who was a highly distinguished member of this House, and that the Senate wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days." Mr. Butler, of South Carolina, Mr. Cass, Mr. Seward, and Mr. Stockton, spoke on the resolution, and in terms of eulogium, that show how fully Mr. Webster was appreciated by his compeers, and how deeply solemn the occasion of his death. The resolutions were unanimously adopted. The House on the following day passed the same resolutions, and eloquent speeches were made by Messrs. Davis of Mass., Appleton of Maine, Preston of Kentucky, Seymour of New-York, and others.

THE NEXT CABINET.—Speculation is particularly rife at Washington, with regard to the cabinet which the President elect will select. Some are very sure that no New-England man will be chosen; others are confident that Messrs. Cass, Buchanan, Marcy, and all other aspirants to the Presidency, will not be allowed to share in the dignities and distinctions of the next administration. Gen. Pierce persists in keeping his own counsel.

ILLNESS OF MR. KING.—Mr. King, the Vice President elect, is dangerously ill, and has not been able to attend the sessions of the Senate for some days. His lungs are seriously affected, and his cough is at times distressing. It is feared that he will not live to assume the duties of the Vice Presidency. Mr. King is himself hopeful of recovery, but intends to hand in his resignation at an early day.

PROSPECTS OF THE SESSION.—As yet no special business has been transacted, and no important measures are proposed. Very little excitement exists. Every one seems to be waiting for some one else to move.

## CALIFORNIA NEWS.

The mail steamship Illinois arrived at New-York on the 12th Dec., bringing news from California up to the date of her sailing. She had on board 540 passengers, and \$2,539,046 in gold dust.

THE FIRE AT SACRAMENTO.—The most important as well as unpleasant news, is the burning of three-fourths of the city of Sacramento, on the 2d of November. The Sacramento Union gives the following account of the extent of the loss:

"Out of twenty-eight hundred buildings, scarcely two hundred remained the morning after the conflagration. Many of the houses destroyed were supposed to be fire-proof, but the conflagration commenced during the prevalence of a strong north wind, and the flames were lashed into uncontrollable fury, sweeping everything in their course, while the terrified inhabitants ran for their lives. The loss of property by this great calamity, is generally estimated at from eight to ten millions of dollars, but probably five millions would make good all the damage. Several lives were also lost. The people of Sacramento have displayed wonderful energy in repairing their losses. During the ten days succeeding the fire, a great portion of the burnt district has been covered with temporary buildings, the principal merchants have re-opened their stores with full stocks of goods, business is resumed with spirit, and a city is arising from the ashes in a manner truly Californian. It will be many months, however, before Sacramento will fully recover from this disaster, while the losses of many estimable citizens are almost overwhelming. During the coming winter, thousands of people will unavoidably suffer great hardships, but they are represented as cheerful, and confident of ultimately triumphing over all obstacles. It is thus that the hardy people of this young and vigorous state, renew their energies with every disaster."

**THE FIRE IN SAN FRANCISCO.**—A fire occurred in this city on the night of the 14th Nov., which destroyed about half a square of valuable buildings. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000.

**THE FIRE AT MARYSVILLE.**—An entire block of buildings was burned, destroying property valued at \$60,000.

**STATE CENSUS.**—In accordance with an act of the Legislature, agents have been for some time employed in collecting statistics. The returns begin to come in, but nothing like accuracy can be expected in a census of a population so nomadic. The returns from five counties out of the 33, four being in mining districts, and one an agricultural, show a population of 60,000. The disproportion between the white male and female population is very great. The agricultural aspect of the country is flattering, and proves beyond a doubt that California has no need to look abroad for food and the necessities of life.

**ELECTION.**—California has given Pierce a majority of about 5,000. The State Senate will stand, Democrats 20; Whigs 7. The Assembly consists of 63 members. So far as heard from, it will consist of Democrats, 41; Whigs, 19. The Democratic majority on joint ballot will be 35.

**MINING PROSPECTS.**—The accounts are generally favorable; the business is better understood than formerly, and a successful winter's work is anticipated.

#### DOMESTIC.

**DEATH OF GREENOUGH THE SCULPTOR.**—Horatio Greenough, one of the first of American sculptors, died at Somerville, Mass., on Saturday the 18th Dec., of a violent attack of brain fever. Though still comparatively young, he had earned a place in the front rank of artists. He was a native of Boston, and graduated at Harvard in 1815. While in college, he furnished the design for the Bunker Hill Monument. Afterwards he visited Italy, and devoted himself to the study of his art. He spent a part of the year 1827-8 in America, when he again returned to Italy, and since that his time has been divided between the land of his birth and that nursery of arts. At the time of his death, he was engaged on an equestrian statue of Washington, which is to be erected in New-York. Among the most remarkable of Mr. Greenough's productions are his portraits of President Quincy and John Quincy Adams; a group of cherubs for J. Fenimore Cooper; a portrait of that author; "Medora," for Robt. Gilmore, of Baltimore; the colossal statue of Washington in that city, and a group entitled the "Rescue," emblematic of the struggle between the Anglo Saxon and aboriginal races on this continent.

**AMERICAN ART UNION.**—The pictures which this association had collected are again dispersed among the lovers of art. They were sold at auction in New-York, on the 15th, 16th and 17th of Dec., and were generally taken at remunerative prices. The total amount of sales was \$35,743. The original cost of the pictures was \$38,127. The steel and copper plates, outlines on stone and wood cuts were all disposed of at an aggregate of \$2,415. It is to be regretted that so fine a collection of the productions of American artists, one that was free to the visits of every stranger, and was doing much to foster and form a taste for the fine arts, should be thus scattered under the hammer. We trust that some system, free from the objections and disabilities which have crushed this, will be carried into effect.

**ACCIDENT ON THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.**—A serious accident occurred on this road on the evening of the 21st Dec. A gravel train with some thirty laborers was returning to New-York, and as it approached Spuyten Duyvil Creek, the station agent gave the signal of danger, the draw-bridge being up, but the engineer not observing the signal, continued his course, and the whole train, locomotive, tender, and seven cars, and upwards of thirty men were precipitated into the water. The fireman was killed, and the engineer had his legs

severely crushed, so that amputation will be necessary. The others were rescued, though some were badly injured.

**SPURIOUS BANK NOTE OPERATIONS.**—During the past month there seems to have been a mania for altering and counterfeiting bank notes and United States coin. Several important arrests have been made. A gang was arrested at Troy, and large amounts of spurious bills and coin were found in the possession of the parties. At New-York, also, the business has been prosperous of late, as the record of almost daily commitment for the crime of passing counterfeit money proves.

**DIPLOMATIC SALARIES.**—The New-York Daily Times is publishing a series of letters from our Ministers abroad, in reply to inquiries by the President, which go to show that their salaries are quite insufficient to support them in a manner consistent with their position and the dignity of our government. The Ministers at London, Paris, St. Petersburg, Constantinople, Vienna, Madrid, and at other legations, all agree that their expenses are hardly met by the compensation they receive. If this be so, the Government ought to increase the salaries, so that a fortune shall not be requisite to the holding of offices of such importance.

**LAW LECTURE.**—The introductory lecture before the Law Department of the University of Albany, was delivered on the evening of the 21st Dec., by Judge Campbell, of New-York. It was listened to attentively by a large audience of the citizens of this city. The prospects for a class are quite flattering.

#### Farm Product Markets.

##### Albany Market, Dec. 21, 1852.

**FLOUR.**—There is only a moderate business doing. The stock is light, but increasing daily by the receipts by railroad. The tendency of prices is upwards, but the market is very inactive, and will continue so until after the holidays. We quote \$5.25a5 31 for common to straight state; \$5.50a5.62 for mixed to fancy Michigan; \$5.50a5.75 for common to extra Ohio; \$5.75 for fancy Genesee, and \$6a6.25 for extra do.

**GRAIN.**—There were no sales making from store.—**WHEAT** is held on the prospect of a further advance. **BARLEY**—none in first hands, and none arriving by railway.

**WHISKEY**—is dull and lower; sales S. P. in lots at 24½. **HOPS**—are selling in lots at 21a22c.

**PROVISIONS.**—Pork in the Hog is rapidly advancing, and good lots are freely taken at the railway by packers at 8c, and for extra lots 8½ was paid, and to-day holders ask 8½ for prime lots. In barrelled meats we have no sales to report. The western markets are very buoyant, and the probability is that they will all close packing with a lighter stock than last season. At Cincinnati Hogs are firm at \$6.60a6.75. At Louisville \$6.25, and at St. Louis \$6.10.

**STREET MARKET.**—The supply is light. We quote heavy hogs 8½a2½, the higher figure for 500 lbs. and over—light hogs 8c. Butter in rolls 23a25; tubs dull 20c. Ducks 50a75c.; Eggs 18a20c.; Chickens and Turkeys 10a12c.; Geese 62½a87½, and some buying at 8c. per lb. Potatoes 87½a125; Oats 54a56; Rye 52a83; Corn 80c. for new. Flax seed 112½a125c.

##### WOOL MARKET.

In this market there is no fleece wool on hand. There is a limited business doing in pulled, at 35a40c. At New-York the market for both foreign and domestic is active; the quotations are American Saxony fleece, 54a58c. per lb. American full blood Merino, 48a53c.; American ½ and ¾ Merino, 42a47c.; native and ½ Merino, 38a42c.; extra, pulled, 48a52c.; superfine, pulled, 42a46c.; No. 1, pulled, 38a42c. At Philadelphia the sales of the past week were 400,000 lbs., at a range of 42½a65. At Providence some 86,000 lbs. sold at 45a52c. for fleece, and 42a50c. for pulled. At Boston about 250,000 lbs. fleece at 45a65c., and pulled at 42a57½c.

##### CATTLE MARKET.

At Albany Market 500 Beeves, extra \$6.75; first quality \$6a625; 2d do. \$5; 3d do \$4a450. At New-York 2,600 Beeves, range 6a9c.; 200 left over. At Brighton on 16th, 2,100 head, extra \$6.50, first quality \$5.75a6, 2d do. \$4.75a5.25, 3d do. \$4a475.

Cows and Calves at Albany, \$20a55. At New-York \$25a45.50. At Brighton, \$25a55.

Sheep at Albany, \$2.50a5.50. At New-York, \$2.50a5. At Brighton, \$3.50a6.

Lambs at Albany, \$2a3. At New-York, \$2a3.50. At Brighton, \$1.50a3.50.

Swine at Albany, \$5a6.25. At Brighton, old hogs 6c.; fat hogs, stills, 6½c.; corn fed, 6½a7c.; shoats to peddle, 6c. for sows, 7c. for barrows; at retail 6½c. for sows, and 7½c. for barrows.

#### ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE.

##### Spring Course of Lectures.

THE next course of Lectures will commence on Tuesday, February 8, 1853, and continue sixteen weeks.

Surgery—ALDEN MARCH, M. D.

Theory and Practice of Medicine—JAMES MCNAUGHTON, M. D.

Materia Medica—T. ROMEYN BECK, M. D.

Anatomy—JAMES H. ARMSBY, M. D.

Chemistry—LEWIS C. BECK, M. D.

Institutes of Medicine—THOMAS HUN, M. D.

Medical Jurisprudence—AMOS DEAN, Esq.

Obstetrics—HOWARD TOWNSEND, M. D.

Clinical Instruction will be given regularly during the session, at the Hospital and College.

Fees for the first course, \$60; second course, \$50; Matriculation fee, \$5; Graduation fee \$20. Students who have attended two full courses of lectures at other institutions, will be required to pay \$10.

Graduates of this College, and of Institutions where the requirements are the same as at this, will have FREE admission to the Lectures. Albany, Dec. 4, 1852.

Jan 1—m&w2t THOMAS HUN, Registrar.

#### Lawrence Scientific School,

##### HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

THE next term of this Institution will open on the first day of March, 1853, and will continue twenty weeks. Instruction by recitations, lectures, or practical exercises, according to the nature of the study, will be given in

Astronomy, ..... by Messrs. Bond.

Botany, ..... Prof. Gray.

Chemistry, analytical and practical,.. Prof. Horsford,

Comparative Anatomy & Physiology, Prof. Wyman,

Engineering, ..... Prof. Eustis.

Mathematics, ..... Prof. Pierce.

Mineralogy, ..... Prof. Cooke.

Physics, ..... Prof. Lovering.

Zoology and Geology, ..... Prof. Agassiz.

For further information concerning the School, application may be made to Prof. E. N. HORSFORD.

Dean of the Faculty.

Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 1, 1853—w3m2t

#### Agricultural Chemistry—Yale College.

A COURSE OF LECTURES on Agricultural Chemistry will be given by Prof. J. A. Porter, commencing January 10th, 1853, and continuing two months and a half. The following subjects will be considered:

1st. The sources of the food of plants, and the nature and properties of the mineral, gaseous, and organic substances, which administer to their growth.

2d. The process of growth by which these substances are converted into vegetable matter, and the laws which control the change.

3d. The nature and properties of the different kinds of vegetable matter thus produced.

4th. The means of promoting growth, and increasing the product of the soil, including a consideration of natural and artificial manures, and their preservation and application, the rotation of crops, draining, irrigation, and the feeding and fattening of animals. The results of the latest experiments will be presented to the class.

The Lectures will be made perfectly simple and comprehensible, assuming no previous scientific knowledge on the part of the hearer. They will be illustrated by experiment, whenever this is practicable. The plan of the course will be more fully set forth in an Introductory Lecture, to be given January 10th, the first Monday of the winter term, at 12 o'clock, in the Geological Lecture Rooms.

Fee for the course, \$10.

New-Haven, Ct., Jan. 1, 1853—w8t

#### Landscape Gardening.

MR. B. MUNN begs to offer his services to gentlemen about building or altering their grounds. An extensive acquaintance with the ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS, COUNTRY VILLAS and COTTAGE RESIDENCES of England, and of this country, combined with an inexpensive system of adapting the natural advantages of the situation to the purposes of pleasure grounds, induces Mr. M. to believe that he will give entire satisfaction in the planning, laying out, or alteration of grounds.

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WE have constantly on hand, the most extensive assortment of the best and latest improved Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, and Field and Garden Seeds, ever offered for sale in the United States, embracing every implement, Machine, or Seed desirable for the Planter, Farmer, or Gardener. Also Guano, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, and Super Phosphate of Lime. Durham, and other improved breeds of Cattle and Sheep.

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Jan. 1, 1853—if. 189 and 191 Water St., New-York.

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Bird Seeds of all sorts—Cuttle Fish Bone—Green-house Plants, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Gardening and Botanical Books, Bass Mats, Cuba Bast for tying, Garden Tools, 20 varieties of Budding and Pruning Knives, of superior quality and finish, Brass Garden Syringes, various patterns, Garden Engines, &c., &c.

Catalogues furnished to post-paid applicants who enclose a post-office stamp.

Seeds can be forwarded safely and promptly by mail, at small cost for postage.

Particular attention given to the careful packing of seeds for long voyages; and the smallest order by mail promptly responded to. J. M. THORBURN & CO., Jan., 1853—w4t. 15 John Street, New-York.

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4. Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry. A new edition. In one volume, 12mo, cloth gilt, \$1.25.

5. Johnston's Practical Agriculture. One volume cloth, 75c.

6. Elements of Agriculture. By D. Bentz, of France; translated and adapted to the use of American Farmers. By F. G. Skinner. Cloth, 50c.

7. Stephen's Book of the Farm; or the Farmer's Guide to Scientific and Practical Agriculture, with notes. By the late John S. Skinner, well known as the Pioneer Agricultural Editor of the United States. This work embraces every subject of importance connected with agriculture in all its various branches, both theoretical and practical. 450 illustrations. Price \$1.

8. Burt's Family Kitchen Garden. Cloth, 75c.

9. Hoare's Treatise on the Cultivation of the Grape Vine on open walls. 50c.

10. The American Muck Book—treating of the nature, properties, sources, history, and operations of all the principal fertilizers and manures in common use, with specific directions for their preparation, preservation and application to the soil and to crops; as combined with the leading principles of practical and scientific agriculture, &c. &c. By D. J. Browne—420 pp., 12mo. Price \$1.25.

11. Brown's American Poultry Yard. Tenth edition, \$1.

12. Allen's American Farm Book. One volume, \$1.

13. Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals. 75c.

14. Southern Agriculture; or Essays on the Cultivation of Corn, Hemp, Tobacco, Wheat, &c. 12mo. Price \$1.

15. Miner's American Bee Keeper's Manual. \$1.

16. Browne's American Bird Fancier. Cloth, 50c.

17. Youatt on Breeds, Management, Structure and Diseases of Sheep. \$1.

18. Youatt on the Horse. A new and complete edition. \$1.25.

19. Youatt on the Hog; a complete manual on their Breeds and Management, with directions for curing Bacon and Hams. Price 60c.

20. Youatt on the Breed and Management of Sheep, with 100 illustrations. Edited by Ambrose Stevens, Esq. \$1.25.

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22. Cottage Bee Keeper; a Practical Treatise on the Management of Bees. 50c.

23. Rural Architecture—being a complete description of Farm Houses, Cottages and Outbuildings; comprising wood houses, work shops, tool houses, carriage and wagon houses, ice houses, apiary, or bee houses, poultry houses, rabbitry, dovecote, piggery, barns and sheds for cattle, &c., together with lawns, pleasure grounds, and parks, the flower, fruit, and vegetable garden. Also useful and ornamental domestic animals for the country resident, &c. Also the best method of conducting water into cattle-yards and houses. By L. F. Allen. Beautifully illustrated. Price \$1.25.

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3. The Hive and the Honey Bee: with plain directions for obtaining a considerable annual income from this branch of rural economy; also an account of the Diseases of Bees and their remedies, and remarks as to their enemies, and the best mode of protecting the hives from their attacks. By H. D. Richardson.

4. Domestic Fowls:—The natural history, breeding, rearing, and general management. By H. D. Richardson, author of "The Natural History of the Fossil Deer," &c. With illustrations.

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7. A Book for every Boy in the Country:—Elements of Agriculture. Translated from the French by F. G. Skinner. Adapted for the Farmers of this country. Price 25 cents.

8. Prize Essay on Manures, submitted to the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture. By S. L. Dana. Price 25 cents.

9. American Bird Fancier:—Considered with reference to the breeding, rearing, feeding, management and peculiarities of Cage and House Birds. By D. J. Browne. Illustrated with engravings. Price 25 cents.

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11. The Cow:—Origin and Varieties, with plain directions

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BEAL'S & SINCLAIR'S CORN AND COB CRUSHERS, admirably adapted for plantation and farm use; the construction is simple, and they are therefore not liable to get out of order.

BRYANT'S FAN MILLS—a superior and very highly finished article. Grant's premium Mill, Clinton's, and other Mills.

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REAPING MACHINES.—These machines will reap from four to eighteen acres of wheat per day, and drawn by two horses, with the requisite attendants.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKES, of several patterns.

GRAIN CRADLES, from the various manufacturers of the greatest celebrity.

GRIND-STONES, in frames, full hung, with foot treadles, crank, friction rollers, &c., &c.

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.—Emery & Co.'s premium Railroad, which took the first premium at the late State Fair, in competition with Wheeler's, Allen's, and many others, including all of any note now before the public, on the endless chain principle, where all were thoroughly examined, as the able report of the committee will testify, when they unanimously agreed to award E. & Co. the first premium for superior mechanical construction, durability and power. The demand for the above machine exceeds our most sanguine anticipations. Its superiority over any we have heretofore sold, is demonstrated every day by those using them, and the unprecedented demand for the same.

We have also on hand Wheeler's, Bogardus', and all the other patterns now used or sold in this vicinity. The Thresher consists of an overshot cylinder, which does not scatter the grain, but throws it within three feet of the machine. This arrangement admits of attaching a separator, high enough from the ground to allow all the grain to fall through it, while the straw is deposited by itself, in the best condition for binding.

PLOWS.—Prouty & Mears' celebrated premium center draft. Minor & Horton's and Rich's Iron Beam Plows.

CULTIVATORS.—This great labor-saving machine for stirring the earth between the rows of corn and other crops, we have every variety of, among which will be found the Universal, Common Expanding, Improved Expanding, Three Furrow, Langdon's, Cotton Sweep, Hand, &c., &c.

HARROWS.—The "Geddes Harrow," so called from the inventor, is considered by those who have used both, to be superior to the square harrow, inasmuch as it draws from a center, without an uneasy and struggling motion, and is of

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Jan. 1, 1853.

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MERCHANTS, Planters and Farmers, in want of AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS or SEEDS, for shipping, plantation, farm or garden purposes, will please call and examine our extensive and superior assortment of goods in the above line, unsurpassed by any other house in the United States, for finish, material and workmanship, and of the most approved patterns; all of which we will sell on as good terms as any other house in this city.

We have among our assortment the far-famed and unequalled EAGLE D. & F. PLOWS, warranted to draw lighter and do as good work in sod or stony ground, as any other Plow to be found in the United States.

We also have the highest premium Straw Cutters, Fan Mills, Grain Mills, Premium Stalk Cutters, Horse Powers, Threshers and Separators of different kinds; Ketchum's celebrated Mowing Machine, unsurpassed; Hussey's Reaping Machine—also, McCormick's Cotton Gins, Cotton Presses, Hay and Hide Presses, Brick Machines, Harrows of all kinds, Sugar Mills for plantation use, Sugar Mills for grocer's use, Hand Store Trucks of all kinds, Mule Carts, Horse Carts, Farm Wagons, Wheel Barrows, Coal and Canal Barrows. In which we have everything for shipping or using on plantation, farm or garden.

JOHN MAYHER & CO.

N. B. Guano, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, and other fertilizers.

Jan. 1, 1853—m&w1.

course easier for the team. Being hung by hinges, it is easily lifted when in motion, to let off collections of weeds and roots, and other obstructions. The triangular or folding Harrow, which is similar in form to the "Geddes Harrow," but much heavier timber, and more suitable for new lands. The Scotch Harrow, which is one of the most effectual in use for smooth lands.

SEED SOWERS—Emery & Co.'s Corn Planter and Seed Drill, makes its own furrow, counting and measuring its own quantity of seed, depositing it in hills or drills at pleasure, and at any distance apart, covering the seed after it is dropped, and compressing it after it is covered, by means of the roller, and doing the whole at one and the same time. It is equally adapted for being used by hand, or by horse, as a plow. One acre per hour is readily planted, and may be called a fair estimate of its capabilities, with the rows three feet apart. We have also for sale the Bachelder Corn Planter, which is one of the best in use for planting corn in hills.

ROAD SCRAPERS.—Of these there are several kinds now in use. The cheapest and best are now made of cast iron, for bottom, sides and edge, with wood backs and handles, and wrought iron bail.

STRAW CUTTERS—Hovey's patent Spiral Cylinder Straw Cutters. Sinclair's, Steven's and other makers.

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WHEEL-BARRoWS, Bee Hives, Garden Engines, Water-Rams, Pumps, Lead Pipes, Chain Pumps, Well Wheels, &c., &c.

COTTON GINS and Gin Segments.

MANURES—Peruvian Guano, warranted pure, Bone Dust, Deburgh's Superphosphate of Lime, Plaster, Bone Black, Refuse Salt, Potash, Scrapings, Poudrette, Wood's Renovating Salt, &c., &c.

FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS—Timothy, Clover, Blue Grass, Ray Grass, Red Top, White Clover, Lucerne, Orchard Grass, Rye and Wheat, Barley, Buckwheat, Oats, and the various kinds of Corn.

VEGETABLE AND GARDEN SEEDS, of superior quality, raised by market gardeners of approved standing, and many of the vegetable seeds from the farm of the Editor of the Working Farmer.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES will be furnished from one of the first Nurseries in America, and at moderate prices.

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Jan. 1—w1.  
No. 25 Cliff Street, New-York.

Clarke's Excelsior Milk Churn,

FOR horse power, can be made of any good iron-hooped cask or barrel. The dash-board, or cross-bars and venting funnels, are set on the iron, or fixed tubes, on which the barrel revolves. Prices for next season: The Crank Churn, \$2.50 to \$10; iron for the Milk Churn, \$1 per sett. The Excelsior Churn is perfectly adapted to the wants of the dairyman, who, by applying early, can have the size they wish. Agents wanted to sell State and County rights. Apply to

GEO. B. CLARKE.  
Leonardsville, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1853—w21.\*

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AND

C. Deburgh's No. 1 Superphosphate of Lime.

IN the Dec. No. of the Working Farmer the undersigned is charged with selling Superphosphate of Lime made by a different manufacturer than Prof. J. J. Mapes, and recommended the same to be of a better quality than his Improved Superphosphate of Lime. We in answer do say, that we sold upwards of one hundred tons of C. Deburgh's No. 1 Superphosphate of Lime. We have, and do now recommend it a better article than that made by Prof. J. J. Mapes, as we had both analysed by one of the best chemists in this country, and found that made by C. Deburgh a superior article. It is made of Bone and Coal dissolved in sulphuric acid, after which a large quantity of Peruvian Guano is added, likewise the residue of ammoniacal chambers, which of itself is an extraordinary fertilizer. We do recommend to every purchaser, to request an analysis from the vendor of the so-called improved—also C. Deburgh's No. 1 Superphosphate of Lime, and purchase subject to such analysis.

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Jan. 1—m2w1.  
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ROWD T. ROBINSON,  
Ferrisburgh, Addison co., Vt.

Aug. 1—tf.

## The Leisure Hour.

## The Play at Venice.

The following admirably written sketch was published some years since in the London Literary Gazette, but will be none the less interesting for the lapse of time since its first appearance.

Some years since, a German prince making a tour of Europe, stopped at Venice for a short period. It was the close of summer, the Adriatic was calm, the nights were lovely, the Venetian women in the full enjoyment of those delicious spirits that in their climate rise and fall with the coming and the departure of this finest season of the year. Every day was given by the illustrious stranger to researches among the records and antiquities of this singular city, and every night to parties on the Brenta or the sea. As the morning was nigh, it was the custom to return from the water to sup at some of the palaces of the nobility. In the commencement of his intercourse all national distinctions were carefully suppressed. But as his intimacy increased, he was forced to see the lurking vanity of the Italian breaking out. One of its most frequent exhibitions was in the little dramas, that wound up those stately festivities. The wit was constantly sharpened by some contrast of the Italian and the German, some light aspersion on Teutonic rudeness, some remark on the history of a people untouched by the elegance of southern manners. The sarcasm was conveyed with Italian grace, and the offence softened by its humour. It was obvious that the only retaliation must be humorous. At length the Prince, on the point of taking leave, invited his entertainers to a farewell supper. He drew the conversation to the infinite superiority of the Italian, and above all of the Venetian, acknowledged the darkness in which Germany had been destined to remain so long, and looked forward with infinite sorrow to the comparative opinion of posterity upon a country to which so little of its gratitude must be due.—

“But my Lords,” said he, rising, “we are an emulous people, and an example like yours cannot be lost even upon a German. I have been charmed with your dramas, and have contrived a little arrangement to give one of our country, if you will condescend to follow me to the great hall.” The company rose and followed him through the splendid suit of a Venetian villa, to the hall which was fitted up as a German barn. The aspect of the theatre produced first surprise and next an universal smile. It had no resemblance to the gilded and sculptured saloons of their own sumptuous little theatres. However it was only so much the more Teutonic. The curtain drew up. The surprise rose into loud laughter, even among the Venetians, who have been seldom betrayed into anything beyond a smile for generations together. The stage was a temporary erection, rude and uneven. The scenes represented a wretched and irregular street, scarcely lighted by a few twinkling lamps, and looking the fit haunt of robbery and assassination. On a narrower view some of the noble spectators began to think it had a kind of resemblance to an Italian street, and some actually discovered in it one of the leading streets of their own famous city. But the play was on a German story—they were under a German roof. The street was, notwithstanding its ill-omened similitude, of course German. The street was solitary. At length a traveller, a German, with pistols in a belt round his waist, and apparently exhausted by his journey, came heavily pacing along. He knocked at several of the doors, but could obtain no admission. He then wrapped himself up in his cloak, sat down upon a fragment of a monument, and soliloquised. “Well, here have I come, and this is my reception. All palaces, no inns, all nobles, and not a man to tell me where I can lie down in comfort or in safety. Well, it cannot be helped. A German does not much care; campaigning has hardened effeminacy among us. Hunger and thirst, heat and cold, dangers of war and the roads, are not very formidable after what we have had to work through from father to son. Loneliness however is not so well, unless a man can labor or read. Read, that's true, come out Zimmerman.” He drew a volume from his pocket, moved nearer to a decaying lamp, and soon seemed absorbed. He had, till now, been the only object. Another soon shared the eyes of the spectators.

A long, light figure came with a kind of visionary movement from behind the monument, surveyed the traveller with keen curiosity, listening with apparent astonishment to his words, and in another moment had fixed itself, gazing over his shoulder on the volume. The eyes of this singular being wandered rapidly over the page, and when it was turned they were lifted up to heaven with the strongest expression of wonder. The German was weary, his head soon drooped over his study, and he closed the book. “What,” said he, rising and stretching his limbs, “is there no one stirring in this comfortless place? Is it not near day?” He took out his repeater, and touched the pendant, it struck four. His mysterious attendant had watched him narrowly, the repeater was traversed over with an eager gaze; but when it struck, delight was mingled with the wonder that had till then filled its pale, intelligent countenance. “Four o'clock,” said the German; “in my country, half the world would be thinking of going to the day's work by this time. In another hour it will be sunrise. Well then, I'll do you a service, you nation of sleepers, and make you open your eyes.” He drew out one of his pistols, and fired it. The attendant form, still hovering behind him, had looked curiously upon the pistol, but on its going off, started back in terror, and with a loud cry that made the traveller turn. “Who are you?” was his greeting to this strange intruder. “I will not hurt you,” was the answer. “Who cares about that?” was the German's retort, and he pulled out the other pistol. “My friend,” said the figure, “even that weapon of thunder and lightning cannot reach me now. But if you would know who I am, let me entreat you to satisfy my curiosity a moment. You seem a man of extraordinary powers.” “Well then,” said the German, in a gentler tone, “if you come as a friend, I shall be glad to give you information; it is the custom of our country to deny nothing to those who will love or learn.” The former sighed deeply, and murmured, “and yet you are a Teuton; but you were just reading a little case of strange and yet most interesting figures: was it a manuscript?” “No, it was a printed book!”

“Printed, what is printing? I never heard but of writing.”

“It is an art by which one man can give to the world in one day as much as one thousand could give by writing, and in a character of superior clearness, correctness and beauty; one by which books are made universal and literature eternal.”

“Admirable, glorious art!” said the inquirer; “who was its illustrious inventor?”

“A German!”

“But another question. I saw you look at a most curious instrument traced with figures, it sparkled with diamonds, but its greatest wonder was its sound. It gave the hour with miraculous exactness, and the strokes were followed by tones superior to the sweetest music of my day.”

“That was a repeater!”

“How, when I had the luxuries of earth at my command, I had nothing to tell the hour better than the clepsydra and the sun-dial. But this must be incomparable from its facility of being carried about, from its suitableness to all hours, from its exactness. It must be an admirable guide even to higher knowledge. All depends upon the exactness of time. It may assist navigation, astronomy. What an invention! Whose was it? he must have been more than man.”

“He was a German!”

“What, still a barbarian! I remember his nation. I once saw an auxiliary legion of them marching towards Rome. They were a bold and brave blue-eyed troop. The whole city poured out to see those northern warriors, but we looked on them only as gallant savages. I have one more question, the most interesting of all. I saw you raise your hand, with a small truncheon in it, in a moment something rushed out, that seemed a portion of the fire of the clouds. Were they thunder and lightning that I saw? Did they come by your command? Was that truncheon a talisman, and are you a mighty magician? Was that truncheon a sceptre commanding the elements? Are you a god?”

The strange inquirer had drawn back gradually as his feelings rose. Curiosity was now solemn wonder, and he stood gazing upward in an attitude that mingled awe with devotion. The German felt the sensation of a superior presence growing on himself, as he looked on the fixed countenance of this mysterious being. It was in that misty

blending of light and darkness which the moon leaves as it sinks just before morn. There was a single hue of pale grey in the east that touched its visage with a chill light, the moon resting broadly on the horizon was setting behind, the figure seemed as if it was standing in the orb. Its arms were lifted towards heaven, and the light came through its drapery with the mild splendor of a vision. But the German, habituated to the vicissitudes of “perils by flood and field,” shook off his brief alarm, and proceeded calmly to explain the source of his miracle. He gave a slight detail of the machinery of the pistol, and alluded to the history of gun-powder. “It must be a mighty instrument in the hands of man for either good or ill,” said the form. “How much it must change the nature of war! how much it must influence the fates of nations! By whom was this wondrous secret revealed to the treaders upon the earth?”

“A German.”

The form seemed suddenly to enlarge, its feebleness of voice was gone, its attitude was irresistably noble. Before it had uttered a word, it looked as made to persuade and command. Its outer robe had been flung away; it now stood with an antique dress of brilliant white, gathered in many folds, and edged with a deep border of purple; a slight wreath of laurel, dazzlingly green, was on its brow. It looked like the Genius of Eloquence. “Stranger,” said it, pointing to the Appenines, which were then beginning to be marked by the twilight, “eighteen hundred years have passed away since I was the glory of all beyond those mountains. Eighteen hundred years have passed into the great flood of eternity since I entered Rome in triumph, and was honored as the leading mind of the great intellectual empire of the world. But I knew nothing of those things. I was a child to you, we were all children to the discoverers of those glorious potencies. But has Italy not been still the mistress of mind? She was then the first of the first; has she not kept her superiority? Show me her noble inventions. I must soon sink from the earth—let me learn still to love my country.”

The listener started back; “Who, what are you?” “I am a spirit. I was CICERO. Show me, by the love of a patriot, what Italy now sends out to enlighten mankind.”

The German looked embarrassed; but in a moment after he heard the sound of a pipe and tabor. He pointed in silence to the narrow street from which the interruption came. A ragged figure tottered out with a barrel organ on his back, a frame of puppets in his hand, a hurdy-gurdy round his neck, and a string of dancing dogs in his train. CICERO uttered but one sigh—“Is this Italy?” The German bowed his head. The showman began his cry—“Raree show, fine raree show against the wall! Fine Madame Catarina dance upon de ground. Who come de galante show!” The organ struck up, the dogs danced, the Italian capered round them. CICERO raised his broad gaze to heaven: “These the men of my country—these the orators, the poets, the patriots of mankind! What scorn and curse of providence can have fallen upon them?” As he gazed, tears suddenly suffused his eyes, the first sunbeam struck across the spot where he stood, a purple mist rose around him, and he was gone!

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The Venetians, with one accord, started from their seats, and rushed out of the hall. The Prince and his suit had previously arranged every thing for leaving the city, and they were beyond the Venetian territory by sunrise. Another night in Venice, and they would have been on their way to the other world.

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